

# Public Libraries

MONTHLY

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## Library Reports\*

Ralph Munn, reference librarian, Public library, Seattle Wash.

The library's annual report has two chief functions. First, it is a document of record. It accounts to the public for funds expended and tells of the work accomplished. As a document of record, it has an historical value and it should be sufficiently detailed to give a comprehensive view of the library's development during the year. Second, the annual report is, or should be, a medium of publicity to attract new readers and to gain the interest and support of the general public.

I picked out for examination the annual reports of 26 different libraries. They varied in size from 8 to 104 pages, the average number of pages being 32. It is probably unnecessary to tell much about their content. Someone has said that library reports differ from one another about as much as men's derby hats. I did find a startling similarity among them but the principal thing which impressed me (perhaps I should say, depressed me) was their awful and deadly dullness. Most of them were excellent examples of that lifeless kind of writing that has become so traditionally associated with official documents. They were simply clogged with details. They would yield history enough to anyone who could stay awake long enough to read them but as publicity they would rank as first class opiates.

Consider these few scintillating

shafts of publicity, and these are fairly typical of what I found. "On May 24, 1982 volumes were returned to the catalog room as overstock. Of these 982 volumes, 14 were redistributed to the branches, 951 were transferred to the central library and 17 were retained for filling future orders." "Miss Alice Harper who had worked as a page in the mending-room thru the summer resigned on September 1." "The reference room received a new map case and there is a new paper baler and scales in the basement." "The linoleum on the floor of the reading room was waxed and polished early in the year. The floors of the branches were treated in the same way later in the year." I found statistics by the ream, yard, ton or any other measurement you might care to use; statistics of almost everything, including the number of Library of Congress cards ordered, the number of cards added to the shelf-list and the number of overdue notices sent out.

Now it may be well to count all these items so important from a historical standpoint and perhaps they should all be made a matter of record. But think of the utter futility of trying to interest Mr and Mrs Average Citizen in the work of the library by printing page after page of this sort of detail! So there arises the question of whether it is possible for one printed document to serve adequately both the historical and publicity func-

\*Read before P. N. library association, August 31, 1922.

tions of the annual report. It is my contention that such a combination of functions is an impossible one and that each function calls for its own treatment in a separate report.

First, there will be the detailed report—the document of record. It will give a very full account of the work of the year. It will contain the departmental notes, all the changes in the staff, the full statistics of circulation, registration and accessions, the complete financial report and all the other facts that may be important in years to come. This report need not be printed at all. It is of interest to a very small number of people. The librarian is, of course, interested. The library board should be. The heads of the city government have a right to the complete information altho we may, at times, doubt whether they are losing any sleep over us and our library. But the list is a very small one and a sufficient number of copies can be typewritten or multigraphed. One copy would be marked "Official" and would become part of the library's permanent records.

To accomplish the publicity function of the annual report there will be a small, well written and attractively printed pamphlet, preferably illustrated. It will contain a concise narrative of the high points of the year's work and will feature those things most likely to attract the general public. It will be made a real piece of publicity. It may be only one-twentieth as long as the other report but it should receive twenty times as much care in its preparation. Go over the events of the year and decide which ones a newspaper reporter would pick out to feature if he were writing a Sunday special on the work of the library. In fact, the report may well take the form of a feature article on the library's services. Write with the idea of including some point of interest for everyone in the city. Weigh topics strictly according to their news value and slip in any necessary propaganda for more funds incidentally. Unusual

services and work with special classes will usually demand attention. Specific question may sometimes be quoted to indicate the character of the work done. For example, when we wanted to show that our Fine Arts division is not merely a place for the scholar and connoisseur, we quoted the following practical question: "Please find for us a number of symbolic American designs that can be used for coin shaped chocolates for the European market."

Of course, one must remember that it is essentially a report that is being prepared and that there are some things which must be included. General statements of circulation and registration, the number of books added during the year, the number in the library and an abstract of the financial statement are all things which must be included. Even these may sometimes be stated in such a way that they will appear to be the most compelling news. Or we can put them into tabulated or graphic form and by working out comparative charts we can make them the most interesting part of the report.

One of the first criticisms that will be brought against this idea of preparing two reports is that it will take too much time. You will say that you have scarcely enough time to prepare one report as at present. Under the present scheme, a great deal of time goes into the one long printed report. It is carefully written, prepared for the printer and proofs are read. After it is all done, what are the net results? We have spent practically all the money the library can afford for printing. There is little or none left for bulletins, posters, booklists or other forms of publicity. We have printed a long, minute and technical report which will interest only those people who are already intimately acquainted with the library and its workings. Its publicity value is almost negligible. Under the scheme advocated in this paper the longer report will not be printed at all and care need only be taken to make it complete and clear.

The shorter report will take time—a great deal of it—but whatever time it takes can be charged directly against publicity. Surely the librarian should spend at least a small part of his time on publicity.

Last year we had our first experience with the shorter report in Seattle. Our reports had been averaging 28 pages. The report for 1920, consisting of 40 pages, cost \$180 for an edition of 1000, or 18 cents each. With these 1000 copies we could supply only a small list of interested persons; 150 of them went to other libraries. Because of the necessity of saving money last year we turned to the shorter form of report. The text covers only five pages and part of that space is taken by illustrations. There are three pages devoted to statistics and the library directory. We printed 4000 copies of this report, at a cost of \$99, or about two and one-half cents per copy. We sent them to the entire membership of the Chamber of Commerce, Municipal league, Rotary, Lions and Kiwanis clubs, the school principals and to many others. I cannot prove that all these persons read the report. I do claim, and I think that most of you will agree with me in this, that the busy people to whom they were sent are more likely to read an eight-page report written in newspaper style than a forty-page one full of de-

tails and statistics. Our daily newspapers may not always meet with our entire approval but they are certainly the most excellent guides to the public interest. They are run by men whose whole training is in judging the public taste. Send a long minute library report to the newspapers and see how surely they will pick out a few high points from which to write a short popular summary.

We put 500 copies of this short report into covers and by using the inside and back covers we gained three pages. On these pages we printed the standing committees of the library board, the library statistics in the form prescribed by the American Library Association and a summary of the circulation by classes and distributing agencies. Because of its fuller statistics and its more permanent and official appearance, this edition was sent to other libraries and to the officers of the city government.

In summary, 4000 copies of the short 1921 report cost about one-half as much as 1000 copies of the longer report of 1920. It is my own personal opinion, and I am not now speaking as a representative of the Seattle public library, that even tho the cost of the two reports were the same, the shorter one would be by far the better investment.

The qualifications demanded of the ideal member of a calling determine whether the calling is a profession or not, regardless of the shortcomings of the individual. The characteristics of this ideal professional man are liberal education, expert knowledge in a special field, desire to serve others and an ambition for leadership. The ideal librarian, unquestionably, requires these professional characteristics, and the conclusion drawn is that librarianship is a profession. With other professions more than filled, why does the library not attract its quota of strong professionally inclined people? Low salaries may furnish one explanation, but that

is not the only reason. The routine of library work impresses the visitor to the library and the professional character of the work is not apparent. This professional work must be carried on both in the library and outside its walls. It must be shown by example also that there is opportunity for individual leadership in the library profession: that librarianship requires initiative and that it offers a chance to do things. To get them we must convince them by precept and by example that the library offers them opportunity for professional service and for personal leadership.—*John H. Leete.*

### "Goops"

So much is being written these days about assistants and apprentices from the point of view of the chief or administrator that I am inclined to put in a word from the other angle. Compared with those of some of my fellow-workers, my career thus far is brief; but during the eight years since I entered the library profession, in three public, one medical and two school libraries, I have passed thru all the stages, from apprentice to head of a department, and sometimes feel that we stress the trials and responsibilities of those higher up to the neglect of the indispensable beginner.

If the young woman of today who timidly "enters the profession" as an apprentice knows as little of library work as I did eight years ago, we should at least see to it that her pleasant anticipations of the future are not marred by the attitude or actions of her seniors. A particularly conscientious, industrious, accurate and useful apprentice or assistant is both an asset and a liability to a library, for her laudable efforts, while they cannot be ignored and unpraised, will certainly cause jealousy in some other members of the staff, and the old adage that "virtue brings its own reward" is proven cruelly true in the treatment she receives at their hands. There used to be a book called "Goops and how to be them." Let us call this "Goop librarians and how not to be them."

First, there is the chief who rates her own knowledge in inverse proportion to the amount of her training. Once in my office days an instructor came to me to register for some special course in the university, and objected to going thru with the usual amount of formality because she had, as she said, "the highest degree one could possibly get." As I mentally cogitated that a degree in tact would not hurt her, I also concluded that her Ph. D. was a newly acquired decoration, and was hence a very delicate point with her. By assuming an air of import-

ance, a state of profound secrecy over matters of concern to the staff as a whole as well as to the senior assistants and by a decided inclination to overwork a "willing horse," a librarian injures not herself alone, but her library and her profession. Our assistants are quick to realize this condition; other members of the staff see it; the public sees it. It is merely a matter of putting yourself in the other girl's place and thinking how you would like reading shelves four hours straight on an August day; watching secret conferences with the loan assistant without being let into the secret, or being rudely disillusioned as to your knowledge of anything in general and of library work in particular.

A second type is the over-familiar one. Hoping to make friends with her staff and become popular with the public, she lolls on the desk to discuss the costume of a patron, or giggles with an assistant behind the cloak-room door over the mistake of some new borrower. By cutting her own day a few minutes short morning and noon she sets an example of tardiness which is only another form of stealing from the public. She delights in forming close acquaintances with certain influential members of her reading clientele and showing them favors not to be wasted on less important members of society. By over-stressing the social side she is losing sight of the first duty of her position—that of impartial service to all patrons alike.

A type hardly less desirable as employers is the unapproachable individual. She comes to you, O yes, whenever *she* wishes to speak to *you*; but when you have something to communicate to her, no matter how important it may be, you find a sort of a chill atmosphere surrounding her, an impenetrable, or at least uninviting pre-occupation, if not actual impatience, which makes you feel heartily sorry for your friendly impulse and makes you resolve never to have one again. A chief must be busy, of course; if she is not she is dispensable; but if



she is too busy to be at all times accessible to her assistants, then she had better surrender her position to one who knows how to live on 24 hours a day. This is the type who is apt to drop in an hour late and leave a half hour early, creating in the minds of her assistants the query as to when she puts in the prescribed number of hours per week. The "business down town" excuse doesn't answer the query, for assistants all have such business, but must manage to get it in sometime besides during working hours, as a matter of honor.

Among college presidents in these days of growth, a very common and often too true a criticism is that too large a proportion of the fund is spent on equipment without provision being made for its upkeep. What is the use of a library, large or small, if there is no money left for hiring adequate help to care for it? A fine array of carelessly cataloged books on advanced mathematics, for instance, that are never taken from the stacks, can hardly be considered an asset; and the squandering of public or university funds in a long subscription list of foreign language periodicals, read by perhaps one or two professors, is nothing short of lunacy when there are no stacks to shelve such material and no funds for their binding and proper care. Better by far 10,000 well-kept, well-cataloged and well-dispensed books than 40,000 poorly cataloged and ill-housed volumes, with insufficient help at the loan desk to bring them before the reading public. Not infrequently it happens that our assistants and apprentices are women of both education and practical experience, but we are slow to ask for suggestions from them, loath to call them into staff-meeting to consult as to new books and equipment, when after all, we ourselves are only beginners and students in the field of knowledge, are never too old nor too learned not to profit by suggestions from fellow-workers; and above all we do not wish to feel, like that university instructor,

that we, with our B. L. S. degrees, have reached the maximum of learning and can assimilate no more. This would imply mental stagnation.

I have known all these types of goop librarians, and perhaps am several kinds of them myself, but it is my sincere desire to stop playing a false game and come down to earth again. A friend of mine, himself then engaged in library work, once said he had recently heard the remark that "all librarians are crazy." Perhaps we are, in the sense that all specialists develop peculiarities; but let us profit by our own experience as beginners in the work, remember that we are still public servants, and take pains to be as nearly normal as possible. Goops are "something that ain't", so let's not be them.

BERTHA FLORENCE BLACKBURN,  
Cataloger.

University of Tennessee.

#### Deciphering Charred Records

A new and interesting photographic method which has been developed for the deciphering of completely charred records is described in *Scientific Paper* No. 454 of the Bureau of Standards. The work was taken up at the request of the superintendent of mails, U. S. Postal service at Augusta, Ga., and was applied to records which were so completely effaced that they could not be deciphered by the camera, microscope, or chemicals.

Success was attained after much experiment by placing the faces of the charred records in direct contact with the emulsion side of fairly fast photographic plates, keeping the papers in such contact for two weeks. The developed plate was black except at places corresponding to the inked letters of the original writing.

And some are good and some are poor as ever. The quality of a periodical lies chiefly in its spirit and vision, but the method and style of presentation of its ideas are not to be discounted.—*Selected.*

**The Public Library in the Little Town\***

As with recreation, so with culture in the sense of civic intelligence. No improvement of present institutions can fully express it.

*The public library.* The library itself as a public institution is not existent in most of the little towns. There are less than two thousand in the entire United States, and four-fifths of their readers live in the North Atlantic and North Central states. Where the library exists it is harmless and as yet largely purposeless. It reflects in the main the fine old bookish habit which regarded culture as a personal accomplishment sometimes adding to the appreciation of life. The boy curious concerning stars and the club essayist required to write on "art" uses the library; otherwise it is a place of popular magazines and light fiction.

*Culture vs. civic guidance.* It is a far cry from such an agency of culture to the thought of the library as an available collection of information whereby the community may educate itself in what it ought to do. The essential part of the little-town library consists of bulletins and reports on specific items of civic consequence. It is a noteworthy aspect of such literature that much of it costs nothing. Such a bulletin of free literature as is published by the University of Oregon reveals the wide range of agencies, governmental and private, which issue such material. Loan and traveling collections and exhibits may be had almost continuously. (Tarbell, "A Village library," publication of Massachusetts civic league, Boston.)

These resources bring the working civic library within the grasp of any town. Add, say, two hundred books distributed thru eight or ten subjects and the community is supplied with the fundamentals of civic intelligence. All library success is measured in the

growing efficiency of the community along civic lines.

*The transformed library.* Integral parts of such a "library" are the museum of local history and the exhibit of local products, with the annual community fair, school exhibit and periodic exhibits of church and club work. Especially important is the annual charting and graphic presentation of the doings of local government and the use of community taxes. The spending of public money is the final test of civic life. Then there will be the annual exhibits of local civic improvement with examples of the similar results of other towns. The traveling exhibits of state and national agencies, agricultural, educational and municipal will be brought to the little town. The striking exhibits of the antituberculosis and other public health movements will be included.

*Concrete and graphic methods.* The re-directed library turns into an exhibit hall in which the books are the mere interpreters of facts visually presented. This marks not only the appeal from the printed page to the more concrete and graphic means of communicating ideas but also the shifting of the idea of culture from books to things and measures, from far interests to near ones, and from other people's idealization of life to one's own. The improvement of the old library ends in quite another institution under the control of a new idea of civic intelligence.

An assistant new to the children's room, observed a small boy standing near her desk and studying her intently. "What's the matter?" she asked him. "Why," he said, "I was just wondering if you had changed yourself."

Mother to children's librarian: "Ah, I have seven children. Tomorrow Saturday, no school, they all this way," waving her hands indicating turmoil. Then a cheerful thought struck her. "Ah, I send them all to the library."—*The Library Log.*

\*[The section on the public library under the heading, "The emerging institutions of civic intelligence," in Douglass (H. P.), *The little town, 1919*, Macmillan, pages 158-160.]

## In the Letter Box

## Not a Radical

Editor, PUBLIC LIBRARIES:

In the March issue of your publication, on page 127, Miss Frances Jenkins Olcott writes: "Mr van Loon had his early education in his native Holland which he left because of his radical views. He has spent some time in Russia during its revolution."

I did not leave my native country on account of my radical views. I ran away because of a terrible stepmother. The woman was a narrow-minded and intolerant religious fanatic who made the lives of her adopted children so utterly miserable that they left home as soon as they could borrow the price of a steamer-ticket.

As for the second point, it is true that I have been in Russia during "its revolution."

Every one who has visited Russia during the last five centuries has been there during "its revolution."

As Miss Olcott insinuates that I have only recently returned from that land of intolerance and violence, I beg to state that I left Moscow exactly 17 years ago, having spent one year in Petersburg and Warsaw and Moscow as correspondent of the Associated Press. I have not been there since.

VAN LOON.

*The Sun.*

Baltimore, Md.

## Societas Spinozana

A. S. Oko, librarian of the Hebrew Union college library, Cincinnati, Ohio, is also secretary of the *Societas Spinozana*. He has issued a circular addressed to librarians calling attention to the society which has been formed for the purpose of advancing the study of the philosophy of Spinoza. The society is international in character, with headquarters at The Hague, and curators in various large centers on the Continent. The society will publish an annual of original studies and also a series of books. The Oxford University

Press is the British and American agent for the series. Members of the society may obtain publications at half price.

Membership in the society is open to all who are interested in the life and teachings of the Dutch philosopher, the fee being \$5 a year for individuals and \$3 for public and university libraries.

## Information Requested

To the Editor:

May I, thru the columns of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, request libraries engaging in programs for the radio to communicate with me, giving me information about the programs which they are already carrying on or ideas which they think would be good to develop?

The Portland Library Association is responsible for a half-hour program every Monday afternoon. We divide this time into two fifteen-minute periods, in one of which a talk about a certain class or group of books, such as etiquette, biography, garden books, books on radio, cook books, groups of new books, etc., is given, the other fifteen minutes being devoted to the reading of extracts from books, ballad poetry, story telling, etc., etc.

This dissemination of book knowledge by radio is full of so many wonderful possibilities that I feel the most should be made of the opportunity, and I shall be glad of any suggestions which others have found helpful.

ANNE M. MULHERON,  
Librarian.

Portland, Oregon.

April 7, 1923.

It is a very good thing in all walks of life,  
When judging a friend or a brother,  
Before you pass judgment on one side of  
the case,

Just turn and look at the other.

Because a man has the same duties  
every day it does not follow that he need  
be the same man doing them.

Monthly—Except August  
and September.

## Public Libraries

M. E. Ahern, Editor

6 No. Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

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Subscription - - - - -	\$3 a year	Current single number - - - -	35 cents
Five copies to one library - - -	\$12 a year	Foreign Subscriptions - - -	\$3.50 a year

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By the rules of the banks of Chicago, an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under.

In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or postoffice money orders should be sent.

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When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at market prices.

Contributions for current numbers of PUBLIC LIBRARIES should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

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THE present cause of extra interest on the part of every library in the country, perhaps, is the coming meeting of the A. L. A. at Hot Springs, Arkansas. This will be the first journey of the organization to this part of the country, if one may leave out the journeys thru the Southwest on several occasions when going to the Pacific coast. As will be seen by the membership list, the librarians of the Southwest are enthusiastic and have evidenced their interest by giving an unusually large membership in so short a time to the A. L. A. (See p. 279.) It remains to be seen what is

produced at the meeting and how far the professional spirit of other parts of the country will overcome the difficulties in the way of attendance at the A. L. A. conference of 1923.

The post-conference is most attractive and unusual and bespeaks the prosperity of the few, at least, in the full quota allowed on board the vessel being made up.

As full an account of proceedings and attendant interesting events as is possible under the circumstances will be given in a later number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

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### New Quarters

PUBLIC LIBRARIES, for the third time in its history, will move, May 1, to new and enlarged quarters at 214 West Monroe Street, Chicago.

A fact which is considered significant of confidence in the management and standing of PUBLIC LIBRARIES has been that mail still comes frequently bearing the first, and more frequently the second, address of previous locations. It is to be expected that, for a long time to come, the address of the past 10 years will be used but communications will be expedited by using the new address, 214 West Monroe Street, Chicago.

### Over the Top

It will be a matter of great pleasure to many interested persons in the library craft to know that Miss Maria V. Leavitt was successful in the Good Will elections of the American committee for Devastated France. The matter is of considerable satisfaction because this is the first time that a librarian has been entered in such an election and the prompt and liberal support given Miss Leavitt bespeaks a friendliness that is quite worthwhile.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES congratulates Miss Leavitt and wishes her the highest degree of pleasure and profit that can be obtained from her well-deserved honor.

## Quality Rather Than Quantity

THE expression of an idea which has lain very close to the surface in the minds of many library workers was delivered by Miss E. Louise Jones of the State department of public libraries of Massachusetts in an address recently before the Institute for librarians at Simmons college.

Miss Jones expressed the opinion that fewer libraries with stronger support were desirable. The spread of the state's appropriation for library work over such a large number of institutions, she said, results in the maintenance of none on an adequate basis. Of the 424 public libraries in Massachusetts, 162 are in towns having a population of less than 2000 persons, the librarians of which must have other sources of income. Miss Jones expressed the further belief that the ideal village library should be the outgrowth of the interest of the community itself. A benefaction of some organization or philanthropy does not receive the public's interest which is necessary to its welfare nor bestow the benefits possible from an institution for which the public feels the responsibility.

This proposition is so patent that it needs little argument in support of it. It is one of the things which commissions and bodies charged with library development should stress. The demand for technical library workers has been eliminated largely by the opportunities offered now for technical instruction in

almost every state. It would result in much stronger development of the library's power as an educational and inspirational institution in the community if the members of the State department of public libraries should devote, say two or three consecutive years, to the problem of making the public, for whom the library is avowedly instituted and supported, realize more strongly than it does at present, not only its responsibility toward the institution but the actual loss which it sustains in its own life and consequently in the life of the several units of the community, by the neglect of these latter to interest themselves in the advantages offered by the public library.

One often sees beautiful library buildings, beautifully fitted up with books and equipment, and by far too few persons making use of their advantages. Far too many members of the community look on the library as a piece of public bric-a-brac, something to show to the visitor, something which feeds their pride of possession, while having no knowledge of its history or power, purpose or sources of increment, or place in their enjoyment of their own lives and their own value to their communities.

Miss Jones is to be commended for her courage in thus speaking out and should be supported in whatever effort she is making toward putting into action the wise ideas she has stated so admirably.

## The Six Good Doctors

The six best doctors anywhere,

And no one can deny it,  
Are Sunshine, Water, Rest, and Air,  
Exercise and Diet.

These six will gladly you attend

If only you are willing,

Your mind they'll cheer, your ills they'll  
mend,

And charge you not one shilling.

It would be difficult to imagine anyone who hears these words sung to the rollicking tune of Yankee Doodle, forgetting the part which Doctors Sunshine, Water, Rest and Air, Exercise and Diet play in promoting physical health and well being.—  
*Bulletin, Chicago Board of Health.*



## The Place and Scope of the A. L. A. Bulletin

A STATEMENT from A. L. A. Headquarters says that a library trustee wrote them, "Your *Bulletin* is absolutely worthless. Please discontinue."

Naturally, this brought a rejoinder from Headquarters asking for suggestions as to what the trustee would like to have Headquarters do to make the *Bulletin* more worthwhile. The suggestion came in answer that Headquarters add to the *Bulletin* "some practical suggestions for trustees and librarians."

"An experiment in this direction will be made and the May *Bulletin* will be devoted exclusively to new and old ideas for librarians and library trustees, these ideas to grow out of the Hot Springs conference, to be given by members present at the meeting."

This all sounds very legitimate as a process of finding for the disgruntled trustee something that will eliminate the criticism he made of the *Bulletin* but a little consideration of the subject will not make it as simple as it seems at first sight. It is an old but well authenticated proverb that one may lead a horse to water but cannot make him drink, and it is not without the bounds of propriety or the verities to say that the trustee in question will be found of the same variety as the oft mentioned horse.

A little inquiry as to the identity of the trustee reveals the fact that he is a resident of a state that has already a very creditable bulletin filled with "new and old ideas for librarians and library trustees," lives in a region, in fact, that has half a dozen of such bulletins, and is not a thousand miles from the home office of PUBLIC LIBRARIES. The bulletin in his own state may be had free of

charge and those of adjoining states, at a nominal sum.

Under these circumstances, one may question whether the said trustee is really looking for "new and old ideas for librarians and library trustees" or is hunting for an excuse for severing his connection with A. L. A. and its activities and one may venture to say that the supply of resources of "new and old ideas for librarians and library trustees" would seem to be sufficient without turning the A. L. A. *Bulletin* into another source of supply of the particular brand for which the trustee is calling.

When action was taken, years ago, by the A. L. A. which terminated the career of the *Library Journal* as the official organ of the A. L. A., it was stated that permanent headquarters of the association which was about to be established would need a line of communication free from other alliances, between members of the association which supported the purposes, plans and activities centered in such headquarters. The A. L. A. *Bulletin* was established with that purpose in mind—that it should carry, periodically, to the members of the organization news of the purposes which might be added to the activities at Headquarters, the plans for carrying out such purposes, reports as to how far these purposes and plans had carried and other information regarding finances, extension, relations and accomplishments of the organization itself—legitimate news, in fact, from the board of directors to the stockholders of the corporation.

It might be questioned as to whether, at the present stage of development, any-

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thing further in the pages of the *Bulletin* is necessary or, indeed, whether anything further could be carried in it without so far consuming space and effort which ought to be devoted to the development of *esprit de corps* in the association, confidence in and coöperation with the work of the central office, and opportunity for those entrusted with carrying out purposes and plans of the association to carry to the members of the association such news of its work as would develop more enterprise, extend coöperation and intensify the interest of those who believe in the value and necessity of established headquarters for the organization.

Under present circumstances, it is questionable whether A. L. A. Headquarters would be justified in retarding or diminishing its purposes and its activities, or increasing its expenses to meet the casual complaint of one or a hundred who are thirsting for "new and old ideas for librarians and library trustees." One may venture, therefore, to negative the proposal, basing such a decision on the number of fresh, sparkling streams of ideas that are already at the service of librarians and library trustees. The *Bulletin*, carrying live, enthusiastic, inspiring reports on A. L. A. and its activity has a place which none other could fill. That it could improve on what other bulletins are doing is highly problematic.

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### Right Wrongs No One

A LETTER from Mr van Loon, on another age, is given that he may there state his position in the controversy which has come up regarding his views, political and social, as some of his readers have interpreted them in his writings. His particular objection relates to Miss Olcott's opinion, as will be seen.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES has no desire nor intention to be unfair to any one in any relation and has so stated to Mr van Loon, saying he should have ample space to state his refutation of any inaccurate statement.

Various explanations have been offered by those who do not or do like the book in question, but as librarians generally make up their own minds,

explanations do not always explain. A circular lately come to hand from Mr van Loon's publishers makes one wonder if it, too, might not come in for some of the explanation as to what influences cause the impressions which some readers seem to gather from his writings.

A letter from Miss Elizabeth B. Wisdom, children's librarian, Brooklyn public library, in defense of the book, is much too long for insertion in PUBLIC LIBRARIES at this time but will be given later. Miss Wisdom expresses her admiration for Mr van Loon's book and, while admitting some of the errors in statement, thinks it will offset the tone and spirit of many American histories.

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John B. Kaiser, librarian, Public library, Tacoma, Washington, writing of a note in April PUBLIC LIBRARIES in regard to "Shakespearean oracles," ex-

presses his pleasure that the note had appeared without prompting. He adds: "Mother has worked on this book, off and on, for 40 years and I consider it

quite a triumph for her to have it published after she has passed her seventy-seventh birthday."

PUBLIC LIBRARIES wishes to reiterate the expression of additional pleasure which comes from this interesting bit of news concerning "Shakespearean oracles." Perhaps others may be cheered by possibilities to the extent of finding other authors "in the family" of librarians who are also distinguished for work so late in life.

### Death's Toll

Miss Anna Cogswell Tyler, in charge of story-telling work in the New York public library for about 15 years, died in Richmond, Virginia, March 21. She was buried in St. Louis. Miss Tyler had been suffering from a painful illness for several months and had gone to Virginia in the hope of recovering her health.

Miss Tyler was born in Connecticut, educated in the schools of that state and was graduated from Pratt Institute library school, Brooklyn. She became assistant to Annie Carroll Moore, then in charge of the children's room of the Pratt free library, and later accompanied Miss Moore to the New York public library when the latter began her organization of the children's work in that institution. Miss Tyler was first placed in charge of a children's room and afterwards became head of the story-telling work for the entire system. In this she achieved signal success, developing it to the great and useful extent which it occupies at present and remaining in charge until her death.

"Miss Tyler had studied for the stage and her voice and presence, added to unusual literary judgment and a sympathetic attitude, made her remarkably successful not only in the telling of stories in person but also in training others in her own methods. The range of material used by Miss Tyler in this work included much not usually employed in library story-telling but which she modified and de-

veloped for her own purposes in such a way as to interest young people, thus laying the foundation for lasting love and appreciation of good literature that is too often spoiled by the close analysis made of it by some teachers in their school work."

Miss Tyler's personality was most attractive and she made a host of friends who mourn her loss.

Those who are interested in the development of school libraries will be grieved to learn of the death of O. S. Rice, for nearly 20 years supervisor of schools in the State department of public education, Wisconsin.

Mr Rice had been ailing for several years but with heroic courage kept at his post. He submitted to operations at Mayo Brothers' sanitarium but without permanent help and finally died in February.

Mr Rice was prominent in educational work in Wisconsin in earlier years and acted as principal of the celebrated Deerfield high-school, 1890-1907. He was tremendously interested in the place of books in the scheme of education and was largely instrumental in securing the enactment of statutes relating to library service in the school work in Wisconsin.

"Lessons in the use of books and libraries," by Mr Rice, passed thru several editions and is highly regarded by those who have used it.

Mr Rice was several times an officer of the Library department of the N. E. A. and for many years was constant in attendance at both state and national meetings.

Mary E. Mathews, N. Y. S., '01, librarian, Bedford branch, Brooklyn public library, died, April 16. She was graduated from Adelphi college, '99 and has been a member of the staff of the Brooklyn public library since 1903, in various capacities—superintendent of branches, in charge of apprentice class, branch librarian at the DeKalb and Macon branches. She was the agent of the A. L. A. dispatch office, Brooklyn, in 1918.

J. A. L.

### Civil Service Examinations

The U. S. Civil Service commission announces an open competitive examination, May 9, to fill vacancies in the office of the commission, at entrance salaries ranging from \$1000 to \$1200 a year, plus the increase of \$20 a month. Promotion depends upon demonstrated ability and the needs of the service. Both men and women may enter this examination. The examination will consist of a discussion of at least 300 words on one of three given topics.

A Civil Service examination will be held for library assistant, June 6, to fill vacancies in the Departmental service, Washington, D. C., at entrance salaries ranging from \$900 to \$1400 a year, plus the increase of \$20 a month. The requirements are four years' high school course and two years' training in a college of recognized standing. For each year lacking such collegiate work, applicants may substitute one year's experience in cataloging or reference work in a library using modern methods. Applicants must also have had one year's training in a recognized library school or at least two years' experience in a library using modern methods or an equivalent combination of such training and experience.

Full information and application blanks may be obtained from the U. S. Civil Service commission, Washington.

### As It Is in Canada

To the Lady at the Central

Library,

Dear Lady—

What *am* I to say to you! I am covered with shame, and offer you every apology and hope you will forgive me, because I was *so sure* I hadn't any other book, never had a doubt in my mind about it.

Had searched *everywhere*—AS I THOUGHT—even leaning across and look-

ing behind the lounge. Nothing there, and as we only have a small suite of three rooms I *hadn't a doubt*.

I *was wrong*, and it only shows how exceedingly careful one should be.

This morning when I was sweeping, I pulled out the little lounge from the wall and behold the book!

It would serve me right if you made me pay twice over for the book as well as returning it.

I have no excuse to offer—and can only say that of course I expected I was telling you the truth. I am quite sure you believe that.

Another time I will keep a list and write down what books I *get* and what I *return*.

And now I can't say more, can I? Except to repeat that I am very sorry for my careless mistake and will try not to do it again. *So far as I remember*, in the 10 years or so that we have had books out, I haven't had a *black mark* against me. *Now I have* and DESERVE IT.

Enclosed please find 10 cents for fine and believe me

Yours repentently,

Lucy.....

### Where Is It?

Recently an abstract of a report of a library came in with no mention anywhere that would indicate the source of the report. One or two hints would seem to give the location of the library, but other parts of the report were unfavorable to the conclusion reached.

Frequently printed reports come in that test one's knowledge of the geographical situation of the town which owns the library. There is a value in this, that it makes the one who wishes to use it in any way, hunt thruout for evidence of locality and in this way, the hunter reads the report more diligently than perhaps he would do otherwise. It has a tendency, however, to dampen the enthusiasm with which the report is approached at first.

### Why Books Don't Sell

The greatest mystery about books is why one story becomes a best seller, a second attains a mediocre success, and a third falls flat, when, in the opinion of critics, all three are of equal literary merit. One may go even farther than this and ask why it is that, of three other books, the story which the literary critic pronounces of the least merit obtains the greatest success.

Publishers have considered these phenomena for many years and have failed utterly to arrive at any understanding. We are told that the big success of any story depends not upon the style of its author, or the technical balance of his work, but rather upon his success in touching upon a human note. When, however, we attempt to measure popular success by this yardstick, we find this statement refuted. Who of us has not discovered the human note in some story born to blush almost unseen, and again, who of us has not searched in vain in the pages of the best seller to discover that same human note?

We are told that a story, to attain a big success, must be "timely"; yet, when the timely story appears and fails to win its place in the list of best sellers, the explanation given is that the public has heard so much of this particular subject that it has become satiated; and again we turn, searching for the solution of our mystery. A romance might be written, based upon the disappointed hopes of publishers and authors who have spared nothing in their efforts to follow what seemed to be the rules of the game which best promised success, but, alas, the romance quickly turns to tragedy!

### The futility of all rules

After having considered what authorities have stated would produce books that would sell, and having seen the futility of any rules at all, we are perhaps taking no greater chances than they in undertaking to express some personal impressions. An author of a novel, recently published, had occas-

sion to enter a large bookshop in New York City with the purpose of purchasing a copy of his own book to present to a friend. With a certain pride, perhaps, the author approached the clerk and stated his purpose. After a more or less superficial search, the clerk reported that they had no copy of the book in question, but he added naively:

"We have several other titles here which I am sure you would find even better."

"That may be," replied the author, "but it so happens that I wrote the book and for certain reasons it is the one which I desire to purchase."

Whereupon the clerk, not greatly embarrassed, launched into an elaborate explanation of how impossible it was for any bookshop to carry all the books that were published, leaning meanwhile nonchalantly upon a pile of books which came from the floor within convenient reach of his elbow. In some way, the eye of the author was attracted by the jacket of the book upon which the clerk's elbow rested. It was, of course, unfortunate to disturb the clerk in his comfortable position, but the expression in the author's eye suggested that his mind was upon other subjects than the clerk's ease.

"Would you mind showing me a copy of the book upon which you are leaning?" he inquired, adding, a moment later: "It seems that you are carrying my book, even though you are so skillfully endeavoring to conceal it. There must be at least 75 copies in that pile upon which you are resting yourself."

The clerk was by this time apologetic, but the author was in no mood for explanations.

"Young man," he said sternly, "if you would cease the practice of having my books support you and give them a chance to support me, it would be much better for both of us."

This is not an imaginary story. It is a fact; and the moral we might draw is that, if the publishers could impress



upon the book-sellers the importance of selling their wares with the same intelligence as is displayed in other sales-rooms, the sale of books might in some way be made commensurate to their worth.—*Christian Science Monitor*.

### Tentative Rules for Cataloging of Incunabula\*

I. Entries for incunabula which have already been adequately described in a catalog or bibliography are to contain the following items:

- 1) Heading, consisting of author's name, title, and imprint.
- 2) Collation, consisting of pagination, illustrations, folding symbol and size in centimeters.
- 3) Quotations, colophon, etc.
- 4) Additional authors, editor, translator, and, if important, recipient of dedication.
- 5) Note on scope, contents, etc.
- 6) References to bibliographies and to type facsimiles.

7) Notes on copy: former owners, binding, marginal ms. notes, illumination, rubrication, details about incompleteness, etc.

1) *Heading*: If a book is known by a standard title, although this title is not used exactly in the edition in hand, the standard title is to be used, the title in the book to follow. In the imprint, use the form of the name of place as in book; give as a rule the name of the printer (publisher) in the form adopted by the British Museum, and the date in Arabic numerals; if a book is not dated, give a conjectural date, as near as possible, and always month and day, if known or conjectured; explain all conjectures in a note. Supplied title, imprint, etc., to be enclosed in brackets.

2) *Collation*: If a book is unpaginated, give the foliation rather than the pagination, and signatures, the latter in a separate note.

3) *Quotations from colophon, etc.*: Quote only such parts of the colophon as give author, title and imprint. In case of books having no title, the incipit is to be quoted.

4) Give *additional authors*, if not in contents note.

5) *Note on scope, contents, etc.*: Efforts should be made to state the full and real scope of the book in hand; contents should be given in preference to a note.

6) *References to bibliographies, etc.*: These should be given in the following order: The one giving the accepted description, then Hain (with Copinger and Reichling), British Museum and others; including Proc-

tor and Haebler type numbers. References to type facsimiles in the library may be given.

Significant variations from copies described to be mentioned in a separate note.

In 3 and 5, the special typographical forms used should be reproduced. If any part quoted be in capital letters, use small capitals, not lower case.

The chairman of the Committee on cataloging has published in the *A. L. A. Bulletin, Library Journal* and *PUBLIC LIBRARIES* the tentative rules for the cataloging of incunabula agreed upon by those members of the committee in attendance at the meeting of the committee at Detroit. Not being present at that meeting and finding the rules there determined on to differ radically from the proposal which I, after correspondence with the members of the sub-committee and with others particularly competent to make suggestions, had presented to the Committee on cataloging at the Detroit meeting, I wish to present herewith my minority report. I have now incorporated in my original rules such differing items of the majority report that I could accept; but I am still at variance with the views of the majority on the following points:

I prefer the term *Heading for Statement*, and *Standard for Conventional* title, though these are minor matters.

The omission of statement as to illustrations from the collation is serious, but probably not intentional.

The signatures should be given in a separate note and not encumber the collation; and there would seem to be no need of them except in the case of books that are not paginated or foliated.

The Standard title should be enclosed in brackets, and followed by the actual title of the book, unless they are identical. This is a general cataloging rule, and I cannot see any reason why it should not be followed in the case of incunabula.

The author, title and imprint parts of the colophon should always be quoted *verbatim*, so as to show definitely the form in which these items are given. When the book has no title, the incipit should be quoted.

In the note with reference to bibliographies, I would place the one having the accepted description first, as this will not in all cases be the "best and fullest." In the same note, I would give the Proctor and Haebler type numbers, and also refer-

\*Minority report of the chairman of the Sub-committee on rules for cataloging incunabula, of the A. L. A. committee on cataloging.

ence to such type facsimiles as the library may possess.

In quoting matter printed in capital letters, I would use small caps throughout, not merely for contractions.

Suggestions from those interested in the question are invited.

AKSEL G. S. JOSEPHSON.

The John Crerar library,  
Chicago.

### One Thing Remembered

In my school vacation days, when reading was a youngster's chief recreation, my father said to me: "Of course no one can remember very much of any one book she reads; but one can remember one thing from every book. I advise you to keep watch as you read, for the one or two things you are going to remember." He repeated this so often that the advice became a habit, and the mention of any worth-while book instantly brings to mind the one thing. My layman's experience with library work convinces me that this trick—for it is little more—is almost invaluable to the presiding genius of the charging desk or whoever assists the public in the selection of books. A friend was looking over a bookrack the other day, and just as I came up, drew out Dewey's *Letters from China and Japan*. "One thing in that book that delighted me," I said, "was the Japanese policemen during a big procession, gently arranging the spectators along the sidewalks in three rows, according to height, so that all might see."

"That sounds well," she commented with a laugh, "I am in a hurry and will just take this." A few weeks afterward I was in a bookstore where the proprietor brought out a pencilled memorandum, saying he had been asked to get some books by a Dewey: "Who was Dewey and what had he written?"—I am more interested in your buyer," I replied: "was it Mrs H?" It was.

This Mrs H is a college woman, active in civic things. She has also the pleasant vice of expressing appreciation. "I want to tell you how your reading from modern poetry last spring saved my reputation at a Boston luncheon. When

the talk turned on poetry, I listened with understanding and even forthput an opinion or two snatched from you." As she veered off to a club program for which she sought help, I ventured slyly, "Why not an evening on the practical uses of modern poetry?"

And so, as a starter, I suggest in addition to saving one's reputation at Boston luncheons, this second practicality: Giving trustees who are continually getting under the librarian's feet an opportunity for library publicity and service, on their own account. Is there not a suggestion in one or two of these—what Mr Canby calls ego-frisky paragraphs—for a trustee, especially a woman trustee, with some leisure, considerable preparation and much real desire for usefulness? Can she not, out of a more voluminous and comprehensive reading than any librarian can possibly find time for, and often from a far longer and more intimate knowledge of her fellow citizens,—can she not frequently, in busy hours of busy days, stand around to help in book selection? Can she not, in duller days of duller months, by some subtle but sure methods, gather groups of young or old at the library for readings aloud of the new books, of special subjects like modern drama or poetry, or the composers represented at the next musical, or somehow, get hitherto uninitiated subjects for the librarian and the magazine rack and the general atmosphere of the public library to work upon? *Extract from "Listeners in Literature" by Lucy Elliot Keeler*

The *Christian Science Monitor*, thru March and April, had a series of interesting articles relating to the libraries of Washington, D. C. The libraries of the departments of Agriculture, Interior, Commerce and Labor and the Smithsonian institute, a number of executive departments and several of the miscellaneous government organizations were included in the resumé. The article on the Public library of the District of Columbia was quite extensive and carried a good portrait of the librarian, Dr G. F. Bowerman.

### Recommended Films

The National Congress of Mothers and Parent-Teacher associations recommends, April, 1923, the following additional films for the family:

#### For the family

Tom Mix in *Catch my smoke*  
Johnny Walker in *Captain Fly-By-Night*.

#### For high school age

The toll of the sea—in natural colors, a *Madame Butterfly* theme done beautifully.

Charles Ray in *The girl I love*.  
Florence Vidor in *Conquering the woman*.  
*Hope*—story shows how Watts happened to paint his masterpiece, *Hope*.

Mae Murray in *Jazzmania* (much better than the title would indicate)

Jack Holt in *Nobody's money*.  
Charles Ray in *A tailor made man* (teaches that precedent stifles the world).

Mr Billings spends a dime (perfectly inane, but not harmful like majority).

#### For adults only

Omar, the tentmaker (if one analyzes this one will understand why some films may be considered worthy of mention for adults, but still not appropriate for the family).

#### Comedies for the family

Dog sense.  
The home-plate.  
A tough winter  
Baby Peggy in *The young reporter*.

#### Educational and scenic

Time (reproductions from the Metropolitan Museum of Art).  
Weaver of dreams (a *Sunset-Burrud* production), an Indian episode.  
Hunting birds' eggs for research work (Audubon society).

MRS CHARLES E. MERRIAM.

Chicago.

### James Whitcomb Riley Hospital

A committee of the Indiana library association and Indiana library trustees association has made a very strong appeal to libraries and librarians of Indiana for their interest and support of the movement to create a James Whitcomb Riley hospital for children. They make the plea on the basis that all that is asked is in the interest of crippled children, Indiana's poet, Riley, and the best use of good books.

Charles E. Rush, librarian of the Public library, Indianapolis, is chairman of the committee, which is proof positive that the work will be thoroly advertised and as thoroly carried out.

The James Whitcomb Riley memorial hospital association, made up of eminent men in Indiana, has granted the request of librarians to contribute a children's library to the Riley memorial hospital for children. While of course the hospital will be located in Indianapolis, the project ought to appeal to the sympathy and pride of all library workers and to all good Americans who understand and appreciate the great contribution that James Whitcomb Riley made to American literature.

A circular containing information with regard to plans of the Children's library committee states that any questions or problems from any one interested will be promptly answered by the chairman of the committee, Charles E. Rush.

### A County Library Not on the List.

This particular county library has been in existence since 1903. It was in November of that year that the directors of the Public library, Owatonna, Minn., voted to extend the privileges of the library to residents of Steele county in consideration of an appropriation from the county. In December, the county commissioners offered \$25 per month for the extension of privileges to all residents of Steele county. The use of the local collection was extended at once and in the following February, the librarian was authorized to take hold of a traveling library proposition. Traveling libraries were established at the postoffices or railway stations or stores of those communities having such central facilities. The movement was so successful that after two years' trial, the appropriation was raised to \$500, later to \$750, and two years ago the sum was raised to \$1000, which not only provides for the use of the cen-

tral collection and the delivery of books, pictures, and pamphlets by mail or express, but buys duplicates for a special county collection.

At present, Steele county has besides its eight village stations, 23 rural school agencies serving residents of the district in which the school is situated. The \$1000 appropriation being inadequate to meet the demand for books and the drain on the central library being greater than it can well bear, an annual appropriation of \$2000 is under consideration.

MAUDE VAN BUREN.

### A Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration

The Indianapolis public library celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its opening, April 8.

A striking statement in regard to the celebration appears in *Readers' Ink* as follows:

The most extravagant dream of those who gathered in the high school hall just 50 years ago was doubtless only a faint hint of what will be 50 years hence. We must not lose sight of the fact that they who gathered there were, indeed, the builders of this beautiful library. Not only Caen and Bedford stone, Vermont and Maryland marble, have gone into the structure of the new building but also the influence of those addresses a half century ago by Governor Hendricks, Rev Edson, Judge Martindale, Dr Elliot, Prof Cox and Rev Kumler—the singing, speaking and reading—these men builded far better than they knew. There had to be a dream before there could be a material structure. These men and women saw the vision, but they did more than that. The money they gave was a large amount for those days.

We who are reaping what they have sown should pause 50 years later to be grateful for this rich library heritage that has been handed down to us. We need to be reminded that their work is not finished, but only just begun. Only those who, later, will gather together to celebrate the seventy-fifth and still later, the hundredth anniversary of this library, will be able to judge how well we "carried on" the trust placed in our hand by the pioneers in founding and building a library.

Just as those library supporters back in 1873 could not dream a dream big enough to foresee the Public library of 1923, so we can only wonder and hope for what the Public library can be in fifty more years—in 1973!

### American Library Association

#### Headquarters notes

The list of new memberships in the A. L. A., January 1-April 13, 1923, reached 508. Among these, Texas led in numbers, 71; Illinois followed with 48, the second highest number. The next 10 in sequence are, New York, 43; Indiana, 38; Louisiana, 31; Washington state, 30; Georgia, 20; Missouri, 19; Iowa, 15; Pennsylvania, 12; Kansas, 11; Michigan, 11.

From outside the continent came two from England, three from Hawaii, one each from France, India and Scotland and two from Singapore.

Of the total new memberships, 352 are \$3 individual members, 75 are \$5 individual members, 78 are institutional members, two are life members and one a contributing member.

Emily Van Dorn Miller has been appointed editor of *The Booklist* to succeed May Masee, resigned. Mrs Carl B. Roden will continue as acting editor for a few months and Miss Miller will begin her connection with *The Booklist*, September 1. Miss Miller is a graduate of Sophie Newcomb; had one year at the New York State library school; was children's librarian in the Walker branch of the Minneapolis public library, 1911-14; reference librarian, Birmingham public library, 1914-20; has been in A. L. A. hospital library work since 1920, first as hospital librarian then as supervisor and more recently as first assistant to the chief of the Library sub-section, Hospital sub-division, Veterans' bureau.

The Eunice R. Oberly Memorial fund, established 1922, has now reached \$1000 according to news received from its chairman by Edward D. Tweedell, treasurer, American Library Association. The fund was begun by the friends of Eunice R. Oberly, late librarian, Bureau of plant industry, U. S. department of agriculture, as a memorial to her. The income is to be used as an annual reward to the compiler of the best bibliography of the year in the field of agriculture or the natural sciences. The

award will be made by a standing committee appointed by the A. L. A. executive board.

The Laura Spelman Rockefeller memorial, on April 4, passed the following resolution:

*Resolved*, that the sum of \$10,000 be, and it hereby is, appropriated to the American Library Association, to be used as a fund against which foreign libraries may draw in the purchase of American books and periodicals, under such regulations as the association may establish.

President Utley has appointed the following committee to administer the fund:

H. M. Lydenberg, Public library, New York City, chairman; W. W. Bishop, J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr., James T. Gerould.

Word has been received conveying the sad intelligence that W. W. Bishop, librarian, University of Michigan, was so severely shaken up in a recent automobile accident that he will be confined to his room for some time. His many friends in the A. L. A., as elsewhere, deeply sympathize with him and do especially hope for his speedy and complete recovery.

Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle, assistant-secretary of the A. L. A. is preparing to go to Paris to inaugurate the realization of the long-wished for library school for French librarians.

#### Bookbinding Exhibits for Summer Schools

Requests for the bookbinding exhibits for the summer school season should be made early so that, as far as possible, the itineraries may be arranged to accommodate the applicants as to dates.

The article on Preparation of periodicals for binding by Miss Gertrude Stiles, which appeared in the March number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, has been reprinted and is now available in separate form. The prices are: Single copies, 8 cents; two copies, 15 cents; 10 copies, 55 cents; 20 copies, \$1.

Requests both for exhibits and for the leaflet should be sent to Mary E. Wheelock, Public library, Cleveland, Ohio.

#### A Readers' Round-Table

A Readers' round-table, under the direction of Dr A. E. Bostwick, Public library, St. Louis, will offer the following program on Wednesday afternoon:

New readers' help, Dr Bostwick.

Service to women's clubs, Mrs D. L. Phillips, Little Rock, Ark.

Service to artists and musicians, Sylvester P. Annan, St. Louis.

Libraries' current book service, Mrs A. E. Bostwick, St. Louis.

Service to the clergy, Rev Dr A. B. Rhine, Hot Springs, Ark.

Technical, industrial and business service, Charles Luedeking, Mallinckrodt Chemical Works, St. Louis.

Service to schools and teachers, A. C. Parsons, Oklahoma City, Okla.

#### Reclassification of Government Service

The bill of Senator Sterling with regard to reclassification of government service in Washington, D. C., has become a law. This is a decided step in advance if it is not all that was hoped for. The gratitude of all who are interested in a more just classification in Government service is due Senator Sterling for his earnest efforts in behalf of the measure.

The bill provides for the Classification board made up of Budget bureau, Efficiency bureau, and Civil service commission representatives. The grades in the bill as enacted are defined in more general terms than Senator Sterling had provided. The Board now has the high power in allocating to higher or lower grades. This is of interest.

The support given the bill by the District of Columbia library association is most commendable, its president, Dorsey W. Hyde, Jr., Miss Claribel Barnett and others giving effective service in keeping the bill in evidence and moving from time to time.



### Special Libraries Convention

The program of the fourteenth annual convention of the Special Libraries association, to be held at Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City, May 22-25, has been issued.

The meeting will open on the evening of May 22 with a reception at Hotel Chelsea. On Wednesday morning, an address will be made by either Carl H. Milam, secretary of the A. L. A. or the new president. This will be followed by the annual address of the president of the S. L. A., Miss Rebecca B. Rankin of New York City.

Wednesday will be given over to group meetings, all held at the same time in different rooms. The following classification will govern the meeting: Financial, insurance, medical, religious, industrial, civic, technology, sociological, agricultural and scientific libraries.

There will be conferences on methods on Thursday when delegates again will be grouped according to subjects, each in charge of a chairman interested in subjects to be discussed. Cataloging, order work, reference work, sources for book selection, documents, national list of periodicals and specialists in public libraries will be discussed.

The second general session will be held on Thursday afternoon. The first subject for discussion is How to make facts work, the speaker to be selected. Bruce Barton of Barton, Durstine & Osborn, New York, will discuss Serving humanity, and Dr David Friday, president, Michigan agricultural college, Business prophesies—or, For what subjects will business librarians be called upon in the coming year?

Thursday evening will be a social evening. Dramatics, stunts and other interesting features will be provided.

Friday morning will be devoted to business transactions, reports of committees, elections, etc.

The third general session will be held Friday evening, May 25, the new president in the chair. The Need of li-

braries in the financial world will be discussed by J. H. Puelicher, president of the American Bankers association; The public library and its relation to business interests, speaker to be announced later; Human relations in the Eastman Kodak Company, Mrs Robert F. Armstrong.

A committee will be appointed to give all possible assistance and information to all librarians interested in visiting special libraries in New York City, Monday and Tuesday, May 22-23. The same opportunity will be afforded to visit libraries in Washington, D. C., and Philadelphia, Saturday, May 26.

Arrangements for exhibits should be made thru Miss Grace A. Child, Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company, Hartford, Conn.

A rate of fare and one-half, on the certificate plan, will be available to Atlantic City.

### Massachusetts Library Institute

The eighth annual institute for Massachusetts librarians held at Simmons college by the Library commission of Massachusetts was based largely on the work in small town or village libraries and only those especially interested in this branch of service were invited to attend these particular meetings. The result was most satisfactory. The small town librarians did not feel themselves overwhelmed by discussion of matters in which they were not interested and had more time to talk about their own problems. There were present 25 village librarians whose expenses to the institute were paid by the state. Special technical instruction was provided for them, the course including six hours of intensive instruction in simple cataloging and classification by Miss Frances Wiggins, and two hours of practical book mending, offered by Miss Ruby Tillinghast of the Commission staff.

The course was opened by Miss E. Louise Jones who gave a brief outline of the ideal village library. She

stressed the point that the village library should be the outgrowth of the life and interest of the community, supported whole-heartedly by the community, its books selected for that particular community, and the trustees and librarian should recognize and accept their responsibilities.

In another lecture, Miss E. Kathleen Jones discussed "Getting books read." She deplored the frantic call for new books just because they were new and the consequent relegation of the older and perhaps more interesting and better books to oblivion. She described ways of displaying these old books attractively and advocated "Ten-book" collections; groups of books on timely subjects; personal comments and pithy reviews; neighborhood, school, mill and factory deposits were recommended.

A collection of reference books which should be in every library was at hand and the special characteristics of each described by Mrs Bertha V. Hartzell. In a very practical talk, Miss June R. Donnelly illustrated the use of the bulletin board and also of signs and posters calling attention to special books and topics.

Miss Edna Phillips, lately appointed to the State library commission, discussed her special interest, work with the foreign-born. The alien population can be introduced to the best in American life and tradition thru books showing our history, respect paid to women in this country and the high standard of living conditions.

Mrs Belle Holcomb Johnson, inspector of libraries for Connecticut, gave an interesting, practical account of some small library enterprises in that state where the problems are much the same as in Massachusetts.

Mrs Mary E. S. Root, formerly children's librarian, Providence, R. I., discussed, most entertainingly, children's books and their illustrators. Pictures were shown of early wood-cuts, as well as of modern illustrations in color.

John Adams Lowe was received enthusiastically by his old friends in the

state. He described the town library as it might and too often does impress a newcomer in the town. He mentioned lack of contact with town enterprises, failure to secure the interest of the book-lovers in the community and the general apathy toward newcomers and new ideas as possible causes for the low valuation set upon the library and its service. The successful library goes out after patrons and seeks suggestions.

An especially interesting number was a paper by Miss Margaret Jackson, librarian at Hempstead, L. I., who spoke of the importance of making the library not only attractive but beautiful; of the selection of books suitable to the community; of knowing people personally; of borrowing books from other libraries; of keeping the library just a step ahead of the public demand, thereby imperceptibly cultivating a taste for the best in literature among its readers.

Mrs R. G. Sherwood, librarian, Westport, Connecticut, repeated her charming paper on Contemporary essays, given first at the Midwinter meeting in Providence.

The meeting on Friday afternoon was held in the Boston public library where the speakers and guests were most hospitably received by Mr Belden and his staff. Tea was served in the charming staff room where opportunity was given for exchange of opinions and social intercourse.

Twenty of the guests present were housed in one of the dormitories of Simmons college. It was a delightful experience and the courtesy of the college was much appreciated by the Board of free public library commissioners as well as the guests.

There were 83 libraries and 63 small towns of the state represented at the institute.\*

The librarians of the larger libraries represented held round-tables for discussing of their common problems.

\*These notes were taken from a comprehensive report supplied by Miss E. Kathleen Jones, general secretary of the Commission.

### Library Meetings

**California**—A meeting was recently held at the University of Southern California for the purpose of reorganizing the Los Angeles library club, Prof R. L. Power presiding.

President von Kleinsmid spoke on Professionalizing a calling and Professor Anthony Blanks read from *Paranassus on wheels*.

A committee on organizing was appointed with Helen Vogelsson, County library, Ella Morgan, Lincoln high-school library, Mrs Vigian Smith, Security Trust & Savings Bank library, Mrs Sturtevant, Southern branch library, Faith Smith, Public library, members, and Dr Power as chairman.

Two California district meetings were recently held. The First district meeting at the University of California, March 13, was under the chairmanship of Miss Celia A. Hayward.

Mrs Margaret Carnegie Gauger, formerly of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh and at present connected with the staff of the Public library, Berkeley, gave an interesting account of the work of the Pittsburgh library.

Miss Susan T. Smith, Sacramento, president of the California library association, announced plans and arrangements for the annual meeting of the California library association to be held at Yosemite, June 4-6. Delegates from the Pacific Northwest library association will attend and take active part in the program of this meeting.

Prof Leon J. Richardson, director of the Extension division of the University of California, told of the work of his department which has an enrollment of 23,000 students, and which profits greatly from the flexible and adequate library system of the state. A number of students from the library school of the University of California were present at the meeting.

The second meeting was that of the Third district, April 7, at Calistoga, under the direction of Mrs Elizabeth Wright of the Public library of that city. The district was well repre-

sented and guests from various other parts of the state were present.

The morning was devoted to reports from various fields and discussion of problems vital to the district. At luncheon, addresses were made by Mrs Ruth Fuller Field, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce; H. C. Peterson, collector of California, California state library, who described "landmarking" and pointed out the great landmarking possibilities of the district which is so rich in mementos of early California history; Miss Susan T. Smith, who gave her usual forceful and effective plea for business methods in library finance, and Miss Estella De Ford of Napa county, who ably discussed various local problems.

HAZEL G. GIBSON,  
Secretary.

**Chicago**—The April meeting of the Chicago library club was held in the Ryerson library on the evening of April 12, about 50 members being present. The audience was composed mostly of librarians in foremost positions in library service in Chicago, the subject for the evening being Librarianship. The theme discussed under this title was the idea of a school for librarianship in Chicago.

This is a topic which, ever and anon, comes up for attention as the positive need for scholarly, skilled library service makes itself felt in library circles of Chicago and environs. For several years, the subject has been discussed by representatives of the larger libraries in the community and a steady drive toward a realization of the idea is carried on.

At the Library club meeting, April 12, Dr Ernest D. Burton, president of the University of Chicago, expressed the need he had felt, more than once, as librarian of the Harper library, for a larger staff of scholarly library workers and his inability to obtain the same. As president of the university, he cordially endorsed the idea of a school for higher librarianship in Chicago and promised to coöperate in

every way possible if such an idea should take permanent shape.

Carl B. Roden, librarian of the Chicago public library, presented an address, Chicago as a center for library education, which was idealistic, in Mr Roden's best form of expression. The rare gift of pronouncement of the speaker was exercised to the utmost in an address which still kept to practical lines in the unfolding of ideas and plans which had occurred to him in his study of the situation.

Dr T. W. Koch, librarian of Northwestern university, was not able to be present but his paper, What is adequate library work? was presented by E. D. Tweedell of the John Crerar library. Dr Koch's address was the last word in idealism in library service. Indeed so idealistic did it sound that a motion was made and seconded that the paper be suppressed lest greater discouragement should come upon those who might be thinking of entering the ranks of librarianship or, worse still, that college and university professors should make still greater demands on the library staff of their institutions than they do at present or than is warranted by the situation.

The effect of this motion was so paralyzing that, with the consent of the second, the motion was withdrawn. A counter-motion was immediately offered that the paper be given as wide publicity in printed form as possible.

The evening closed with a very bright and effective presentation of the Place of the training class in education for librarianship, by Miss Louise Singley, new director of the Training class in the Chicago public library. Miss Singley was listened to with attention and pleasure and received the hearty applause of her audience on the completion of her paper.

**Pittsburgh**—The Special libraries association, organized in December, is growing both in numbers and activities. The programs are of special interest in that those connected with the various institutions are presenting the scope and activities of the same, par-

ticularly the bibliographical and printed material which serves the various interests represented.

An interesting item offered by Dr Hamor of Mellon institute was an account of how the Baking Research scholarship saved the baking industry \$40,000 a week by one of their discoveries.

The Allegheny County law library, founded in 1867, and containing over 50,000 volumes, it was stated by J. Oscar Emrich, librarian, places on the shelves in five or six groups, all its material, arranged alphabetically by author, which enables the work to be done by untrained assistants. The very thoro cataloging and the fact that messengers bring the library users all required material, does away with the necessity of shelving by subject. The books are only accessioned and no library mark appears on the outside. The accessioning is on cards, the color of the card being the sign to each of the groupings employed. At the end of the year, in making out the annual report, the cards are sorted by color and then counted.

There are 19 institutions represented in the Pittsburgh special libraries association.

**Washington**—The Library section of the Inland Empire teachers' association met in joint session with the Inland Empire council of teachers of English, on April 4, in the library of the Lewis and Clark high-school of Spokane, with Miss Mable Collins, chairman, presiding. The program consisted of a book symposium conducted by Mr Rufus Coleman, department of English, Lewis and Clark high-school, recent books being considered from the viewpoint of their suitability for inclusion on high-school reading lists. The books and their reviewers were:

**Saunders.** Literature of business, Mrs F. M. Immisch, North Central high-school, Spokane.

**Hemon.** Maria Chapdelaine, Miss Mabel Reynolds, librarian, State normal school, Cheney.

**Garland.** Son of the Middle Border and Daughter of the Middle Border, Miss

- Mary Bacon, Lewis and Clark high-school library, Spokane.
- Panunzio.** Soul of an immigrant, Mrs Cora B. Utz, librarian of Spokane university.
- Van Loon.** Story of mankind, John A. Shaw, jr., History department, North Central high-school, Spokane.
- Lamprey.** Masters of the guild and In the days of the guild, Miss Marie Hardy, Reference department, Spokane library.
- Slosson.** Creative chemistry, reviewed by A. P. Troth, Science department, Lewis and Clark high-school, Spokane.
- Thomson.** Outlines of science, reviewed by J. S. Richards, librarian of State normal school, Ellensburg.
- Arnim.** Christopher and Columbus, reviewed by Miss Ora Maxwell, Circulation department, Spokane public library.
- Hawes.** Great quest, Mr Fowler, English department, State normal school, Lewiston, Idaho.
- Mills.** Watched by wild animals, Jessie M. Brewer, North Central high-school library, Spokane.

The following officers were elected: President, Elizabeth T. Stout, librarian, Lewis and Clark high-school, Spokane; secretary, Mabel Reynolds, librarian State normal school, Cheney.

Upon the suggestion of Miss Lucile Fargo, it was decided that this section go on record as favoring the organization of an Inland Empire library club.

A. M. HARDY.

It was recently pointed out by a young American poet, Robert Haven Schauf-  
fler, whose new book of verse, *Magic Flame*, was published this spring, that American literary men are often shockingly without literary background. "Let me make a confession," says Mr Schauf-  
fler. "Until last winter I had looked upon myself with favor as rather a literary man-about-the-world. One evening Arnold Bennett asked me to dinner at the Reform club. Forster, Sassoon, and Swinnerton were the other guests. Naturally, we all waded forthwith into the sea of shop-talk. I had a very bad time of it. In two spaces I was out of my depth and, weighed down by provinciality, was blowing bubbles. If one or the other of those literary mermen had not kindly lent me a gracious flipper from time to time, I should now be fit for none but automatic writing."

### Interesting Things in Print

*The Proceedings* of the Pacific Northwest library association convention of 1922 has been issued in pamphlet form and may be obtained from the treasurer, Miss Elena A. Clancey, Public library, Tacoma, Washington, for 75 cents. Back numbers of *The Proceedings* are sold for 25 cents.

The daily papers of Tacoma, Washington, carried a most interesting and explanatory write-up of the work of the Public library of that city in special Rotary editions gotten out on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Pacific Northwest district Rotary clubs.

The Municipal Information bureau of the University of Wisconsin extension division has issued a very comprehensive discussion of the question of documents and research material available for municipal officers. This is issued under the title, *The Library and the municipal official*, and is *Information Report No. 29*. The report was prepared by Miss Sophia Hall.

A list of subject headings for small libraries, by Minnie Earl Sears, has been issued by the H. W. Wilson Company. Nine small libraries known to be well cataloged were asked to furnish lists of subject headings actually in use in their catalogs as a basis for this volume. The resulting list includes subjects which occur in two or more of these lists. Altho there may be some subjects of general interest not included, the subjects cover most of what would be needed in the average small library. The form of the subject headings has, in many cases, been modified for the sake of uniformity, and Library of Congress practice has been followed in the main in choosing the form of headings.

An introduction by the compiler gives a full explanation of the list and suggestions for its use. The entries are printed in one column only, leaving the second column for additions and changes.



This volume of 195 pages ought to be a useful tool for the librarians for whom it is intended.

The list of serials currently received by the United States department of agriculture, exclusive of government and state publications, has been issued as *Department Circular* 187. The periodicals on the list have been arranged by title, subject and region, and the list divided into four parts: Part 1, periodicals; Part 2, other serials; Part 3, subject list; Part 4, geographical list. The list contains a total of 5586 different entries.

The list of periodicals was prepared by Miss Margaret T. Olcott, formerly assistant chief of the Periodical department, and supersedes *Library Bulletin* 75, published in 1909, which contained the list of periodicals received at that time. The number of periodicals received by the library has increased 1035 since the former list.

The list of other serials contains 2976 different titles not contained in *Library Bulletin* 75. The subject list contains a list by states of the agricultural periodicals of the country.

The list of serials and the subject and geographical lists were prepared by Miss Emma B. Hawks, assistant librarian, who also edited the bulletin.

Reviewing conditions in the Boston Athenaeum as they have developed in the 25 years of his librarianship, Charles K. Bolton states that the collection has increased from 190,000 to 300,000 volumes. There is considerably more room, a larger staff, and more books are taken out. A pension fund of \$22,000 has been developed, only the income being used, and this in the judgment of the librarian.

Mr Bolton speaks with the keenest enjoyment of the pleasure he gets out of being a librarian. Its opportunities, advantages and rewards are not measured by monetary value but in the mental and spiritual stimulation which comes from association.

Mr Bolton received many congratulations from his public most of whom

are members of the Athenaeum. Before going to the Athenaeum, Mr Bolton was librarian at Brookline, Mass.

It will be interesting to librarians who for years have tried to supply the demand for the "famous books" of Mrs Sarah K. Bolton that her autobiography is being prepared by her son, Charles K. Bolton, librarian of the Boston Athenaeum, and will be ready shortly for use.

The work will be privately printed in a small volume with portraits and will describe New England girlhood, life in the South in 1860, friendships with Longfellow, Whittier, Browning, Jean Ingelow, social service in England and philanthropic work.

Libraries having the books of Mrs Bolton will want to place with them this life of a woman who perhaps has done as much as any other writer to encourage boys and girls to overcome difficulties that lie in the way of attainment of ambitions and desires.

A note from Mr Bolton states that the volume may be obtained at cost if ordered in advance from him.

The volume of Proceedings of the thirty-fourth annual convention of National Association of Railways and Utilities Commissioners held at Detroit in November, 1922, has been issued.

Important papers on various phases of the public utility questions relating to railroads, telephones, motors, express, contracts, accounting, etc., etc., are given. These furnish valuable, up-to-date and accurate information such as every reference room constantly needs. Expressions of authority on government ownership, Federal regulation, public ownership and dozens of other current topics of public interest are given by such men as Messrs Insull, McKimmon, McChord and others.

Three important pamphlets which have come out of the Detroit meeting also, are revised editions of the former publications, Uniform classifications of accounts for water, for electrical and for gas utilities.

The State Law Reporting Co., 233 Broadway, New York, is the publisher.

### A Tour of The Range

A night spent in a sleeper with as many home-going college students, both girls and boys, as could find room in its confines made one glad, in the early morning, to draw in long breaths of the cold, invigorating air of Lake Superior on arrival at the wonderful city set upon a hill, Duluth, Minn. The idea of a journey on a "local" train induced one to take a seat in a "bus" which was in fact a very comfortable large automobile that covered quickly the 40 miles leading to the Range country. The asphalt road ran to within 10 miles of destination thru an area of homes, farms, mills, where the scars of time, and of man's carelessness as well as his industry, were all covered with *white* snow, a thing which the traveler had not seen in such quantities for a long time. It was piled many feet high on both sides of the road tho the Spring sunshine was fast converting it into running streams or small ponds where it had a good show.

Arrived at last, into what seemed and is almost, a bran-new town, the wonder of the region began its spell. Streets of asphalt with snow and ice fast upon them, electric lights that compete favorably with the Eastern claim of a "white way," stores and shops, spick and span, dwellings of concrete, stately and less, clubs, schools, all signs of affluence present in much attraction. This town was "moved" from its first resting place a few years ago because its site holding the riches placed there by a beneficent Creator was desired by the great captains of industry who saw no obstacles in the way of their will and bought out 7500 homes that they might get out the pure ore which lay beneath, moving the residents to a new location. The result of the "move" resembles somewhat the devastated regions overseas as the city authorities have so far refused to "vacate alleys and streets." And, there it is.

The public library of the place is still in the old part of the town and is noted for its complete equipment, not only as a library with many and divers activities but as a social center of the place. At

the time of a visit, an exhibit of the state art society was on, while a tea party, a club meeting and the staff meeting were in progress at the same time, all in suitable and adequate quarters. This library also operates a book wagon among "localities" lying too far from the library to use its facilities. (A review of the book wagon idea must wait for another time.)

An interurban railway connects some seven or eight towns along The Range so that it was quite convenient to visit all of them.

Great basins in the earth, some of enormous proportions, were on all sides of the car line. Accompanying the enormous chasms were "dumps" as they are named, some hundreds of feet high and literally miles in length, which have been formed from the stripping of the mines. The region has suffered severely from time to time from forest fires and shows no sign of tree or bush save naked, blackened, dead trunks and stumps of former trees. The earth piled up showed and even in summer bears no vegetation.

Every phase of library activity was in evidence in the various places visited, from the one which seemed hardly entitled to the name library beyond the fact of its rather good collection of books gathered years ago. Its space was crowded and ill-arranged for library purposes while other organizations had taken possession of ample quarters in the building and during the visit were holding meetings so noisily that conversation was difficult, much less study, but no one was trying to study there!

Then there was the library where a group of foreign women were studying to take the final examination necessary to obtain their complete naturalization papers and where a few questions brought enthusiastic praise of the help the library was to them.

The tour took in big libraries and some that were smaller but all showed a devotion to the duty in hand that was most inspiring.

The tour came to an end at Virginia and here, perhaps, the high tide was

reached. A beautiful city, largely alive to its duties and opportunities. A widespread, intelligent interest in the place and power of the library was manifest to an unusual degree.

A morning's meeting of the regional library club had been arranged and a very interesting discussion of topics pertinent to the problems of the work they were doing took place. There was no set program, but under the leadership of Miss Olson of Buhl, frank and friendly exchange of opinions, not always in accord, brought help to everyone present. The school libraries were well represented. The morning passed all too soon and after a luncheon together, the members returned to their libraries.

The closing event of the tour was a meeting at Virginia on the last night, of almost all the trustees and head librarians of The Range libraries. The meeting was preceded by a bountiful dinner. At its close, each library reported on the club activities thru a trustee or the librarian. A difference of opinion prevailed as to how far library activities should make way for club activities in such a region as was represented.

Two invited guests were present as speakers, Miss Baldwin of the State department and Miss Ahern, editor of *PUBLIC LIBRARIES*. The former outlined the provisions of the county library law of the state and showed how communities may take advantage of the same.

The other speaker stressed the responsibilities of one who assumes the duties of a trustee. She pointed out the great trust that America has in keeping faith with those who, believing in the plighted word of the constitution, have cast here their lot, expecting friendliness, integrity, opportunity, honor and example of what constitutes a good citizen. The place of the library in all this is paramount to any other institution in that it gives opportunity for growth in all the relations of life and trustees are pledged to deal well and fairly with library, with community and municipality.

The task is not an easy one but its fulfillment means honor and joy in one's labor.

The tour was undertaken at the solicitation of Miss Grace Stevens, librarian of the Virginia public library, who deserves praise for her vision and her belief in her work which she makes a power for good in her community.

The atmosphere and environment are unique. There is something charmingly unusual about the region which fascinates one more and more, the longer one stays.

There is an unusually nice group of library workers, mostly young and ambitious, on the staffs of the various libraries. At Hibbing, are a dozen or fifteen bright girls, all with more or less special training for their work. College graduates and library school graduates are to be found on all the staffs. Such well-known workers as Miss Hurlburt, Miss Stevens, Miss Hickman and Miss Olson, of course, give stability and professional enthusiasm to the activities which have grown up among these competent workers from the very nature of the situation.

Any one hunting for adventure, for "missionary effort," for "welfare work," for pioneer life, or, indeed, for the luxuries which can be furnished by money, of which there is a superabundance, can find a field, rich and open for occupancy upon The Range.

After the addresses, the librarians and visitors adjourned and the trustees organized an association for their own benefit and pleasure.

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Good books are faithful teachers. They interest, inspire, and guide. They help in student work and cheer in leisure hours. They bring us new ideals of life and purpose and new visions of opportunity and service. They are the companions of our choice, the true friends of our hearts and homes. —William M. Davidson, Superintendent of public Schools, Pittsburgh, Pa.

### Library Schools

#### Carnegie library of Atlanta

A variation from the established custom of the library school is the substituting for the thesis on Organization and administration of a public library, usually required of all students, a practical problem in community surveying to be worked out by several groups of students, comprising about one-half the class. The communities selected for a library survey are three small towns, College Park, East Point and Decatur, within easy reach of Atlanta but not close enough to be suburban in character.

This survey follows administration lectures on choosing library sites, types of library buildings, branch libraries and other distributing agencies, community surveying, etc., given by Miss Barker and Miss Templeton and a special lecture on the welfare organizations of a typical Southern town, by Mr Burr Blackburn of Atlanta who is executive secretary of the Georgia State council of social agencies.

The data is to be collected by consulting all available material in the Carnegie library of Atlanta, by questionnaires sent to the superintendent of schools, the chamber of commerce, etc., but the greater part of the information will of necessity be obtained by expeditions to the town.

The results of the survey will include the following points: The site of the library, the size of the library, other distributing agencies needed, the proportion of adult to juvenile service, the size of the staff, the budget, and general suggestions as to the kind of books needed.

SUSIE LEE CRUMLEY,  
Principal.

#### Drexel institute

The current month has offered the students a variety of occupation and a diversity of interests. Term examinations, an Easter vacation, and a friendly visit from two library schools, in addition to its regular schedule

work, make a full calendar for even a library school student, who is used to giving more hours to schedule than most college courses require.

The biennial visit of the Pratt Institute school brought with it an interesting gathering and sufficient time for interchange of ideas between the students of the two schools. Miss Rathbone had a party of 22 with her this year and it was a great pleasure to welcome them to Drexel.

On April 10, Miss Sanderson and Miss Williams brought 47 of the students of the New York State library school. After days of sight seeing and note taking, it seemed only humane to seat them comfortably in the picture gallery and give them a hot cup of tea with attendant pleasures.

The course in Library work with children was further enriched by the presence of Miss Effie L. Power, director of children's work in the Cleveland public library. Miss Katherine McAlarney gave an interesting lecture on the best children's books of the last three years, to be followed later by a talk by Miss Engle and Miss Clara Hunt of Brooklyn.

MRS ANNE W. HOWLAND,  
Director.

#### New York public library

The junior students spent the week, March 23-29, in their customary visits to libraries in cities other than New York, the trip this time embracing Albany, Boston and Providence. The party of 32 enjoyed the splendid hospitality at the New York State education building, and in the various public libraries, college libraries, and special libraries visited in the other cities named, and the tour proved to be a thoroughly profitable one.

The instruction of chief interest recently given by outside speakers to the juniors has consisted of Professor Root's series on the history of printing, Miss Power's lectures and conferences on children's literature, and the beginning of Mr Stevens' work on the history of libraries, in connection

with the last of which the students go weekly to Pratt Institute school of library science.

With the seniors, Miss Margaret Mann and Miss Linda A. Morley have recently discussed the methods and technical organization of the special library; John Foster Carr has presented some aspects of library work with foreigners; Miss Grace Cornell of Teachers college has spoken on the principles of design with reference to their application to book making, and the course in book selection has included lectures by Mrs Marguerite Wilkinson, Dr Peter H. Goldsmith, and Dr Stephen P. Duggan.

The Wednesday afternoon social hours for the year are almost concluded, the recent talks in connection with them having been by Christopher Morley and by Mrs Helen Wark Grannis, a former student of the school who has recently returned from five years of relief work in the Near East and in France. Mrs Grannis gave her impressions of Albania, her talk being illustrated by lantern slides.

The entrance examinations for the school year 1923-24 will take place on Saturday, June 9.

Cornelia Johnson, '17-18, was married recently to H. S. Chittum.

Leonore A. Tafel, '17-18, formerly librarian of the American Cotton Oil Company, is now connected with the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company library, New York.

Aasta Wendelbo, '21-22, who is now an assistant in the Music library at the University of Rochester, has accepted a position in the Preparation division of the New York public library, to begin July 1.

ERNEST J. REECE,

Principal.

#### Pratt institute

The class of 1923 returned from its spring trip convinced that no other class ever had so delightful an experience, and, indeed, it is hard to see how this one could have been bettered.

The itinerary included Princeton, Trenton, Philadelphia, Bryn Mawr, Harrisburg, Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton, Pa., and included visits to three university and college libraries—Prince-

ton, the University of Pennsylvania, and Lehigh—a normal school library, two state libraries and library commissions, two special libraries, two commercial establishments, a society library, five public libraries, large, middle-sized and small, and another library school, the newly revived school of Drexel institute. The two classes greatly enjoyed meeting and comparing notes. Everyone was most generous of time and hospitality.

We have had the pleasure of entertaining two library schools since the beginning of the new term—Albany on April 5, the New York school on April 10, both to visit the library and to attend the first of Mr Stevens' lectures on the History of libraries.

Miss Anna Coit Tyler, a member of the class of 1905 and for two years thereafter an assistant in the library of Pratt institute, passed away at Richmond, Virginia, on March 21. Miss Tyler was one of our staff of visiting lecturers and awakened and stimulated the students' interest in storytelling for a number of years. She had a rare gift for inspiring enthusiasm, and hers were among the most delightful lectures ever enjoyed by the school.

The school has been greatly interested in the successful candidacy of Miss Mollie V. Leavitt for the Good Will election of the Committee on Devastated France. Miss Carolyn F. Ulrich, president of the Graduates' association and chairman of the New York Public Library committee, met the class on March 13 and presented to them both of these subjects which were related thru the fact that Miss Leavitt is not only a graduate of the school but was a founder of the Graduates' association.

Miss Rachel Sedeyn, '22, librarian of Brussels university, arrived in New York on a two months leave for the study of University library problems, Tuesday afternoon, April 3, and was in the class-room an hour after landing telling the students about her work in the university and her library class at the new School of social wel-



fare. The library and school gave Miss Sedeyn a most hearty welcome home.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,  
Vice-director.

#### St. Louis

The field work period ended on February 24, and class room work was resumed the following Monday, the students reporting on the experiences of the past month.

Our first visiting lecturer for the term, Mrs Harry C. January, secretary of the Missouri consumers' league, spoke on Women in industry.

A series of lectures on the Bibliography of special subjects opened with a talk on the translations of the classics presented by Dr George R. Throop, professor of Greek at Washington university.

Dr George B. Mangold, director of the school of social economy, gave two lectures on the Bibliography of sociology; Miss Agnes Hanna, author of "Home economics in the elementary and secondary schools," one on the literature of home economics. Miss Hanna was formerly connected with the Home economics department of the university of Chicago and is now engaged in research work for the Children's bureau.

Each year the course in subject bibliography is made practical by the preparation of an annotated list for print in the June number of the *Library Bulletin*. The subject chosen for this year is Egypt, past and present.

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK.

#### Simmons college

A visit was received from the library school of the New York public library on March 27.

Miss E. Louise Jones spoke to the cataloging class on "Reorganizing the very small library," which is so important a part of a commission worker's problems.

The college graduate class enjoyed a visit to the Brookline public library on April 12.

The new courses of the third term include the electives in School libraries and Business libraries.

In the book selection work each week, a different student committee conducts an hour devoted to a single type of fiction, the types ranging from detective stories to religious novels.

Public documents and foreign bibliography also come into the curriculum of this final term.

The element of excitement is introduced by the actual offers of positions at this season, and as the students enter into the Valley of Decision, professional things take on a sudden reality.

The college library is losing the valued service of Mrs Hartzell, as librarian of the library in the Simmons school of social service. We all wish her success in her interesting task of developing the library at Dana Hall. Her successor is Miss Margaret Withington, now on the Library School staff. Miss Withington will take up her new duties in September, after spending the summer abroad.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY,  
Director.

#### Syracuse university

The senior class of the library school with the director made the annual visit to the libraries of Washington, New York vicinity, March 31-April 6. Because it is necessary to compress this trip into the limits of the spring vacation, various points which otherwise would be included have been omitted. Notwithstanding this, the trip this year was one of the best ever taken by the school. Especially delightful was the visit to Princeton university, not before included in our itinerary, and an afternoon of particular interest at the Newark public library.

The lectures in Bibliography by professors of the university on their respective subjects have been transferred to the second semester with various adjustments.

Interesting opportunities to hear special lectures in other departments have included Amy Lowell, Samuel Crothers, Zona Gale and Hugh Walpole.

### University of Washington

By joint action of the members of the Puget Sound library club and the Alumni of the library school, a library school student loan fund has been established, to be known as the University of Washington Library School loan fund. This fund is available to students in the library school who have been in attendance for at least a quarter and have made a satisfactory record. Its purpose is largely to meet emergency needs of the students, rather than to pay expenses thruout the year. It is administered by a committee consisting of Mr W. E. Henry, director of the Library school, chairman, Miss Kate M. Firmin of the Seattle public library, and Mrs Marie Alfonso of the University of Washington library school. The fund is being raised by voluntary contributions from the members of the club and the Alumni association, and altho it has been only about a month since the movement was inaugurated, contributions amounting to over \$300 have been received. The fund is open to contribution at any time, and it is planned to present the matter from time to time in the future.

The library school is regretting the loss of Miss Ellen F. Howe, who has been instructor in book selection and children's work for the past four years. Miss Howe's resignation took effect on March 31, and she is spending several months in travel in England and on the Continent. Miss Agnes Hansen of the Seattle public library is taking Miss Howe's work for the spring quarter.

Mr Herbert Killam, secretary of the British Columbia library commission, opened the course of lectures given in the spring quarter by leading librarians of the Northwest. Mr Killam's subject "Breaking a trail," was a discussion of pioneer library work in a sparsely settled country. Later lectures will be given by Miss Mabel Ashley of the Everett public library; Mr J. T. Jennings, Miss Sarah V. Lewis, Mr Ralph Munn, and Miss

Margaret Greene, of the Seattle public library; Miss Beatrice Mercer of the Roosevelt high-school library, Seattle; Mr John Ridington of the University of British Columbia; Mr John B. Kaiser of the Tacoma public library; and Miss Eleanor Stephens of the Yakima public library.

Helen Carson, '14, is librarian of the Walnut Hills high school; Cincinnati, Ohio.

Avery D. Weage, '22, has been appointed assistant in the cataloging department of the Department of Agriculture library, Washington, D. C.

W. E. HENRY,  
Director.

### Western Reserve university

The course on Binding and repair of books was given during March by Miss Gertrude Stiles, National Library Bindery Company, who was in charge of binding in the Cleveland public library for many years. The concluding lecture was on art binding with lantern slides, showing many fine bindings. Miss Besie Sargeant Smith, supervisor of branches, Cleveland public library, has been giving a series of lectures on "branches and other distributing agencies." The course in subject bibliography began with the second semester and the visit of H. H. B. Meyer, chief bibliographer of the Library of Congress on March 22, was of especial interest to the students as he spoke on practical bibliography. His second lecture was on the Library of Congress, with lantern slides. The staff of the Cleveland public library was invited.

A series of lectures on Practical psychology is being given by Grace Preyer Rush, assistant-professor of Psychology of Western Reserve university. The course is developed with library service especially in view and is proving of great interest.

A welcome visitor who recently lectured in the Library administration course was Miss Electra C. Doren, librarian of the Dayton public library and the first director of the Western Reserve library school. Miss Doren spoke on "Public response to the li-

brary's needs," and the students had opportunity for personal questions in the social hour following the lecture.

The director of the school was one of the speakers at a Vocational Guidance conference at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, March 20. Library work, one of six vocations, was presented. The following day, the director attended a "rally of catalogers" of the Middle Western district in Cincinnati, under the auspices of the Catalog section of the A. L. A. Miss Laura Smith was chairman and there was much animated and profitable discussion of cataloging topics.

#### Marriages

Jane I. Kuhns, '16, to Dr Jerry E. Vanderpool, March 28.

Mary Faith Fuller, '17, to Harry Milton Demos, February 21.

ALICE S. TYLER,  
Director.

#### Summer opportunities for library training

Simmons college, Boston, June R. Donnelly, director.

Library work with children, July 2-21; regular work, college credit given, July 2-August 10.

New York State library school, Albany, Sabra W. Vought, director.

School library work, July 2-August 10; general course, Mildred Pope, director.

Chautauqua school for librarians, Chautauqua, N. Y., Mary E. Downey, director.

General work, July 7-August 18; counts toward certificate.

Columbia university, New York City, Harriet E. Howe, director.

July 9-August 17; credit toward degree. University of Illinois, Urbana; P. L. Windsor, director.

Elementary, general and for credit in regular library school course, July 18-August 11.

University of Iowa, Iowa City; Grace Wormer, director.

July 11-July 21; college credit given. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; W. W. Bishop, director.

July 25-August 17; college credit given. Indiana library commission, Indianapolis; secretary of the commission in charge.

June 30-August 6; limited to Indiana librarians.

The University of Minnesota will offer instruction in library methods at its summer session, June 26-August 3. Cataloging, classification, library administration and reference work will be given. Frank K. Walter, librarian, University of Minnesota, will be in general charge of the work. Credit will be given in science, literature and arts to students who have completed not less than two years of college or university work. Students with at least two years' experience in regular library work or teaching may be admitted as "no credit" students.

Full information may be obtained from Frank K. Walter, librarian, University of Minnesota.

In order to complete its files, the Library school of the New York public library desires to secure the following library school circulars:

Carnegie library school, Atlanta, 1910-11, 1914-15, 1915-16.

Drexel Institute school of library science, 1898-99, 1905-06.

University of Illinois library school, 1902-03, 1904-11, 1912-13, 1914-16, 1917-21.

Carnegie library school, Pittsburgh, 1903-10, 1913-14.

Pratt Institute school of library science, 1900-12, 1917-18.

Simmons College school of library science, 1903-04, 1905-08.

University of Syracuse library school, 1908, 1910-11, 1917, 1919.

University of Washington library school, 1920-21.

Western Reserve University library school, 1905-06.

University of Wisconsin library school, 1912-14.

ERNEST J. REECE.

An item in *Library School Notes*, published by the N. Y. P. L. S., gives the following tabulation concerning the country of origin, other than the United States, of students in the library school:

Austria .....	1	Holland .....	2
Canada .....	7	Japan .....	2
Chile .....	1	Norway .....	5
China .....	3	Russia .....	1
Finland .....	2	Sweden .....	1
France .....	3		

Almost 10 per cent of the entire student body has been of foreign birth.

## Discussion of Some Books

## Recent Books by Librarians

- Jeffers, Leroy, *The Call of the mountains*.  
 Olcott, Frances Jenkins, *Good stories for great birthdays*.  
 Shaw, Charles B., *A reading list on biographies*.  
 Smith, Elva S., *More mystery tales for boys and girls*.  
 Stearns, Lutie E., *Essentials in library administration*; (third edition).  
 Stevenson, Burton E., *The Kingmakers*.  
 Widdemer, Margaret, *A minister of Grace*.  
 Widdemer, Margaret, *A tree with a bird in it*.  
 Widdemer, Margaret, *Winona on her own*.  
 Nicholas, a Manhattan Christmas story, by Annie Carroll Moore, will be published in the fall by Putnam.  
 Guide to the use of libraries; a manual for college and university students, Margaret Hutchins, Alice S. Johnson, and Margaret S. Williams.  
 Librarians as trade unionists, Frank and Rachel Anderson, appeared in the December *Labor Age*.

## Librarians of Yesteryears

*Bibliothécaires d'antan*, Theodore Wesley Koch, Paris, 1922.

This is one of the several booklets on matters closely related or allied to librarianship which Dr Koch has been issuing in recent years. They are noted as specimens of good book-making in addition to their interesting contents.

In an address at the meeting of the A. L. A., at Ottawa, Dr Herbert Putnam, director of the Library of Congress, expressed the hope that the libraries of the future would be so organized as to be given a personality by the librarian. There has been such a radical change in the administration of libraries during the last two generations that it is necessary to go back to former librarians to bring out the point.

A characteristic of the librarian of the old school was a dominating passion for reading. Librarians in some cases lived in their libraries and guarded their books and manuscripts like gold. So great was this desire to read that no cataloging was done. The experience of Casaubon was such that

Mark Patterson said in his *Life of Casaubon*—"The librarian who reads is lost."

Naudé, librarian of the *Palais Mazarin*, raised his library to a position surpassing that of the Royal library. This was done chiefly thru his ability to buy books at a bargain.

Lessing, of the ducal library of Wolfenbüttel, spent his time writing books instead of cataloging and classifying. For this he was criticized by his successor, Langer.

Shifting the scene to Great Britain, other prominent librarians are mentioned, among them the Bishop of Worcester, Sir Thomas Bodley, who laid down rules for the successful administration of his library. A register of gifts was an innovation. He made it necessary for an oath to be taken before the vice-chancellor before one could enjoy the privileges of the library. His work was appreciated by King James I, who later made him Royal librarian. The Royal library was in such poor condition that Bodley placed in his own apartment the greatest treasure of the library, an Alexandrine manuscript of the Bible in Greek, so that people might see it without seeing the library. This is an original precedent in the functions of a librarian.

A librarian worthy of mention is Richard Bentley who, in 1699, was at the head of Trinity college at Cambridge. Others are Richard Porson, professor of Greek at Cambridge; David Hume and Sir Henry Ellis, chief librarian of the British Museum.

Richard Porson possessed three qualities necessary to a librarian, a good memory, a knowledge of books, and imagination, but he lacked method in his work.

According to some, the list of modern librarians begins with Sir Anthony Panizzi, an Italian, librarian of the British Museum. He was employed in 1831, when the administration was on the decline and he was given the

task of cataloging the pamphlets of the Royal library. Notable reforms were accomplished during his administration. In 1837, he became Keeper of the Seals, his success giving rise to prejudice against foreigners. With the help of others he drew up rules for cataloging which, in some respects, have not been surpassed to this day. He did, however, fail to recognize the advantage of printed cataloging over cataloging by shelves. Under his administration the Museum passed from the rank of sixth or seventh to that of second, if not the first among the libraries of the world. He directed his library by perfecting his organization on one hand and expanding on the other.

Next to Panizzi, the most attractive personality in the annals of the British Museum was Richard Garnett who, like Samuel Johnson, came from Lichfield. He was famous for what he was as well as for his works. Both he and Johnson were distinguished poets and equally famous for their friendships and their love of study and their training. Garnett left a printed catalog to the British Museum containing 4,500,000 names. It is said that the British have never quite pardoned Panizzi for pretending that a printed catalog was too much of a task to be undertaken.

Richard Garnett passed his whole life, one might say, at the British Museum and there was nothing he had not read. He was endowed with good humor and if something came up about which he was not fully informed, he would immediately look it up.

The treatise concludes by citing Lord Goschen, who says that the success of libraries and their usefulness must always be measured by the affability and competence of the librarian.

*Bibliothécaires d'autan* appeared first in *North American Review*. It was translated by Mr R. F. Snell for PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

### One Phase of Danger

"A challenge is one thing, a menace is quite another. A challenge becomes a menace only when it cannot be coun-

tered. To suspect, therefore, that Bolshevism is a menace to existing American institutions, is to imply that it is either possessed of some occult power to fascinate us into a blind abandonment of our institutions, to our own detriment, or else, that it can actually solve our social problem and bring the greatest amount of good to the largest number of people, more felicitously than can our established order.

"Now to imagine that Bolshevism has any of the above occult power is, of course, absurd, and if Bolshevism possesses the virtue to promote human progress more abundantly than American institutions, or than any other institutions anywhere in the world, then it is by no means a menace but a blessing. And if Bolshevism cannot compete with our institutions in ministering to human welfare, if it has in it the power merely to degrade and debase, then none but those afflicted with a grave mental aberration would ever think of championing it, and surely no Anglo-Saxon, or one reared in Anglo-Saxon civilization, and accustomed to appraise ideas in terms of practical values, would ever allow it to supplant the order of society in which he reposes his faith."—*From The Russian Peasant and the Revolution*, by Maurice G. Hindus, published by Henry Holt and Company.

### An Authoritative List of Scandinavian Books

"Nordens" handböcker I. Nordisk litteraturförteckning. Resonerande catalog öfver litteratur för studiet av danske, norska och svenska förhallanden samt öfver dansk, norsk och svensk skönlitteratur. 1921.

This little book of 144 pages, containing three separate lists of books, one Danish, one Norwegian, and one Swedish, was issued by three collaborating societies, *Föreningarna "Norden,"* with the object of making the public in each of the three Scandinavian countries better acquainted with the literature of the other two, and thru the literature, with their general culture, their scienti-



fic and industrial progress, their history and the characteristics of their people. We find in these lists the titles and prices of the important and standard works on all subjects, as far as they deal directly with the Scandinavian countries and peoples; general periodicals, and encyclopedias, biographical dictionaries, comprehensive treatises, and important monographs.

The special purpose of the lists has been kept in mind also in the divisions dealing with the belletristic literature, in that a number of works have been included just because they dealt with certain aspects of life and nature. The main point of view in these divisions has, however, been to give a selection of the best and most characteristic of the fiction, poetry, and drama of each of the three literatures. A sprinkling of titles of a lighter kind has been included.

The volume has been prepared by well known librarians and the preface points out that public libraries might find it of value as a guide in the selection of books of the kind represented there.

Until the new lists of Scandinavian literature now in preparation for the A. L. A. are available, the little book prepared by the societies "Norden" might very well serve American libraries in selecting Scandinavian books. The book may be purchased from any Scandinavian book agent.

AKSEL G. S. JOSEPHSON.

### The Spirit of Research

Calvin Morgan McClung historical collection of books, pamphlets, manuscripts, pictures and maps relating to early Western travel and the history and genealogy of Tennessee and other Southern states. Presented to Lawson McGhee library by Mrs Calvin M. McClung. Knoxville, Tenn., 1921. 192 pages.

The Lawson McGhee library, Knoxville, has been fortunate in acquiring by gift a private collection of Western literature which was brought together by an enlightened gentleman and used by him and his friends for personal study. A collection of this kind not only is an asset in any com-

munity, but may lead to what I consider the most essential library extension movement: the development of native American sources of knowledge and activity. The catalog now printed—the work of Miss Mary U. Rothrock, librarian of the Lawson McGhee library, and Miss Laura Luttrell—shows that the selection of literary material has been made by a careful student of general Western history, especially interested in Tennessee and the surrounding country. It is a catalog which will repay a careful reading. While many great "rarities" are wanting, the collection contains a relatively large number of unusual books, discovered by Mr McClung in his readings or through his search for facts in Western history. The collection, then, is not that of a wealthy man stepping into the carnival of the auction room to capture rarities and costly pieces, but of a gentleman who, having acquired a method in business, applies this method to the collection of books suiting the purpose of personal research of such historical matters as appeal to him. Mr McClung had his Monette, Timberlake, Ramsay, Burk, Marshall, Collins, Butterfield, and, in early travel, his Barbram, Imlay, Elliott, and other important books too numerous to mention here; but to discover such books as Breazeale, Napton, Redford, Samuel Williams, E. S. Thomas, Spalding's Flaget, George A. Hanson, John Esten Cooke, Mrs Ellet, and Asbury—to mention but a few among many—indicates a talent for making personal discoveries among books. In this way, Mr McClung has given more benefit to the McGhee library than can be measured by the mere transfer of the books from private to public ownership. This spirit of research and study has been passed on to the community with the acceptance of the gift. When such a spirit reigns, or at least is respected, the public library may grow into a positive agency of enlightenment and power.

J. CHRISTIAN BAY.

### Business Classification\*

It is difficult for persons working amid the masses of material in our great reference libraries, or apart from commercial centers, to understand the needs of the smaller libraries in the business world; to sense the demand for simplicity and time-saving which there exists.

In the Elliott classification, subjects have been grouped with regard to their relationships to each other and their actual presentation in printed matter. It is cast on broad lines to provide for development in the various subjects, for, as the author says, "The literature of business is of recent development and will grow with business progress. Therefore, provision is made for expansion permitting detailed development coincident with the growth of the particular business." Open numbers occur thruout and two sections, 200-399, have been reserved for the subject matter of the specific industry or business using the classification. This is a feature which makes the classification much more widely applicable. These sections have been developed for a financial library in the present edition. Others worked out with little change except in these two sections.

The notation scheme is simple, with a base similar to the various decimal systems now in print. No decimals have been used in this edition and the expansion is sufficient to permit the classification of a library of 5000 to 6000 volumes or more with the use of three figures only.

An interesting feature is the suggestion for the alphabetical arrangement of individual industries by means of Cutter tables. Geographic tables are also provided. There are two synopses and a subject index which appears adequate. The make-up of

\*Business classification with index. General edition with expanded section for financial section, by Julia E. Elliott. O. 2267. Indexers, Chicago.

this book is good, with clear type, good spacing, and plenty of provision for insertions.  
R. G. N.

### A. Publisher's View of Book Reviews

In an admirable address at the Atlantic City meeting two years ago, a member of the firm of J. B. Lippincott & Co., gave some sane ideas on book reviewing. The address was something like this:

As many have remarked, we have at present no means of separating the worth while books from the bad, no criterion to go by, no one book authority whose word is law. We probably never shall have anything satisfactory of the kind, for "point of view" applies too strongly, and what pleases John may not satisfy his neighbor. The nearest thing to it is the work of conscientious reviewers supplemented by the equally excellent work of those who scrutinize and recommend books for library use. It is true, even with these safeguards almost anything can be "put over," with clever advertising, tho scarcely with profit. It is with fiction that the advertiser can (and sometimes does) let imagination run loose. No matter how weak the story may be, such phrases as "a book for every man, woman and child to read," "a hair-raising tale, showing the author at his best," "read this and you will walk the floor all night," can be coined by the yard or by the mile, without infringing any written law. If it is desirable to quote some good reviews, it is generally possible to get them somewhere. A little pruning can do wonders. For instance, a reviewer may write, "This is a fine book—for the ash-heap"; and an over-zealous advertisement writer, remembering his school-room training about the advantages of brevity, can forget the last four words and quote, in his honest opinion, a much better sentence, reading, "This is a fine book. . ." Mr Lippincott said he did not expect ever to see this carried to such extremes as the above, but good reviews usually originally contain both praise and criticism. Yet in

quoting them how many advertisers are there who include the criticism?

We in the United States, Mr Lippincott told his audience, are easily impressed by big figures of sale. We like it, and are disappointed when disillusioned. If we hear that a hundred thousand copies of a book have been sold, we are likely to want to read that book. The truth is, that the buying public, swamped in the piles of new books and having been so often misled or confused by advertising, all of which fairly glitters like gold, turns to the number of copies sold as the most reliable guide to real worth in a novel. The beautiful covers of today are to blame for much confusion. "It looks good" is an expression much too popular, for now-a-days everything in the bookstore "looks good." There is something to be said of the old fashioned lady who, before buying, always read the beginning and the end of a novel.

Mr Lippincott said that, in his opinion, the books of biography were, in an effort to popularize them, sometimes wittingly distorted, and with wisdom. In the first place, those who undertake to read a biography are usually personal friends or admirers of the one chronicled. They want to hear his virtues recounted and his deeds lauded. The more the merrier. Can even the good biographer, knowing this only too well, be uninfluenced by it? Faults may be forgot or lost. A good story may grow even better. And those who undertake to chronicle a national hero must know from the beginning what is expected of them and must do their duty, or otherwise be damned. Perhaps truth—naked truth—is at present more apparent in autobiography. It is something new—this handing out of truth in shovel fulls; therefore it is proving to be the success of the day in literature.

Mr Lippincott concluded his address by saying that what is needed to guide the reader to truth in literature is sane, accurate, trustworthy advertising description in every case. There would

be less labor, less waste, less crowding. The "pot boiler" would disappear. The price of a good book would come down because its sale would be larger than now and its advertising less costly. The libraries may in time become the impartial judges between good and bad literature. Already they are doing a great deal in this direction. They can do more. They are in a strategic position. With no ax to grind, no entangling alliances, the best advisory talent at their disposal, and the general public behind them, what is more logical than more and more reliance on their guidance while that guidance continues to be good? Perhaps some day, Mr. Lippincott said, the libraries may even overcome the one great stumbling block—difference of opinion.

#### A Classicist on Libraries

Handbuch der wissenschaftlichen Bibliothekskunde, von Dr Victor Gardthausen. Leipzig, 1920. 2v.

Professor Gardthausen is a classical scholar, actively connected with the library of the University of Leipzig previous to his retirement some years ago. In the course of his lectures at the university on library economy as applied in scientific libraries, both university and reference, he felt the need of a handbook that would stress essentials and yet not be unwieldy in its attempt at completeness. Graesel's excellent Handbook, now somewhat old, seemed overweighted in its thoroughgoing effort at completeness, while Ladewig's *Politik der bücherei*, in discarding practically all reference to the literature, seemed underweighted. Gardthausen, in working over his material to avoid these extremes, found that this middle path had been followed by Svend Dahl's *Haandbog*, then just published at Copenhagen, but even this, in its treatment of books and libraries in classical antiquity, scarcely touched the Greek and Byzantine sources.

Considering Professor Gardthausen's absorbing interest in these monuments of classical times, it is not surprising that

when he finally mentions a most modern form of bookmaking, the loose-leaf, he dismisses it as a barbarous contrivance not worthy of application to books of importance.

As for scientific libraries, which preponderate in Germany, he considers himself amply justified in retorting to Münsterberg's remark concerning the funereal calm of the research library that the Harvard professor seems to have little frequented the European university libraries, especially those of Leipzig and Berlin.

With regard to the library building itself, Gardthausen would have it located not in the midst of the noise and bustle of a great city but in a quiet section nearby with good transportation. Even he recognizes that now in America they have begun to build according to a new type of construction, the sky-scraper, thus allowing more than ever for many and large windows.

As for the librarian himself, he should be a specialist in one subject with an encyclopedic view of the other branches of learning, thus tending to look at knowledge more widely than deeply, yet with the feeling that there is scarcely a single discipline that will not occasionally serve one in good stead.

To American librarians it will seem odd that Gardthausen in his treatment of national bibliography has given no mention of the United States catalog.

Probably our only regret on reading this handbook is that the subject might have been presented better by the late Dr Paul Schwenke of Berlin, whose knowledge of library economy was not so much overshadowed by an interest in classical antiquities, and whose grasp both of technical details and the broader policies of library administration was most thoro.

J. B. C.

Carl Sandburg has written a charming, quaintly nonsensical, highly amusing book called *Rootabaga stories*. "I confidently recommend the book to all children, their relatives and friends. Personally, I think it far better than his other prose works, such as *Smoke and Steel* and other Chicago poems."—*Wm. Stokes in April Scribner's Magazine*.

### A Review of Scandinavian Art

*Scandinavian Art*, the fifth of a series of monographs published by the American-Scandinavian Foundation, is written in three parts: The survey on Swedish art, by Carl G. Laurin; the Account of Danish art in the nineteenth century, by Emil Hannover, director of the Danish museum of industrial art; the Development of modern Norwegian art, by Jens Thiis, director of the National gallery in Christiania. The book is profusely illustrated.

Geographic isolation from the main centers of culture caused Sweden at first to import her artists from abroad, but finally to evolve a strongly racial art of her own; Denmark, too artistically provincial in her early years of esthetic development, came into her own thru native-born artists trained in Paris; Norway, beginning as late as the nineteenth century with any national art to boast of, had nothing to unlearn and has made astounding strides.

Says Dr Christian Brinton in his sympathetic and scholarly introduction to the work:

You have herewith unveiled before you the artistic features of Sweden, Denmark and Norway. Each section has been traced by a practiced hand. While the touch varies a trifle, the result will not fail to fuse itself into a composite portrait of the aesthetic physiognomy of the Scandinavian people. It is but natural that the art of painting should receive major consideration. . . . Architecture is comparatively new in the North and sculpture is not as yet widely cultivated. . . . The art of Scandinavia is coloristic.

The earliest artists to leave traces of their work in Sweden were natives from Holland and Germany. A German, David Klöcker, became the reverend "Father of Swedish painting." He was court painter during the "Period of Greatness" and was ennobled under the name of Ehrenstrahl. Protected by the nobles, painting followed closely in the steps of France of the eighteenth century, when Swedish art fairly shouted of its French likeness. The young Swedish painters went to Paris to study and often re-

mained to paint portraits of the Parisian *beau monde*, becoming the rivals of the French painters on their own ground. The only relief we have in looking at portraits of the period done in the French style, with full justice done to the silks and satins of the aristocracy, is to find pictured the works of Martin, a landscapist in the English manner, and Karl von Breda, a pupil of Sir Joshua Reynolds, who brought back from England a feeling for nature. His portraits were a valuable addition to the art of the period.

But there was no racial trait apparent, as yet, to differentiate the art of Sweden from that of any other European country. It was not until the early eighties that a group of young Swedish students in Munich and Paris forsook these cities and adopting as their slogan, "Forward and Home," returned to Sweden where they afterwards remained and became identified with their country, interpreting it in their work. Their paintings are described as "songs in color," as having a "lyric quality" peculiar to the Scandinavian people in their creative arts, and as showing "the love of nature and natural phenomena that outbalances a love for portraying the human figure." Beneath their apparent gaiety there is an underlying melancholy, mysticism, psychic restlessness. Some have turned their attention to reviving in art the ancient sagas and legends of the Northern peoples and make their landscapes the haunts of trolls and wood nymphs. Others, like Bruno Liljefors and Anders Zorn, painted the peasants and landscapes of Sweden with robust virility and great technical skill. Some have had renown and honors in Europe, but it is to their credit that they are to be forever identified with their native country.

The art of sculpture in Sweden dates from the twelfth century with their earliest carving in stone, the Giant Finn, who embraces a column in the crypt of Lund cathedral, and then nothing of great note until a German

wood carver in medieval times made a St. Göran and the Dragon in the Storkyrka, in Stockholm. We are told how the outstanding figure in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century was "not a painter but the forceful character of the sculptor, Johan Tobias Sergel, the modeller of the Faun in the National museum." His healthy and sensuous nature interpreted nature in terms less classical than Canova or Thorvaldsen.

The modern sculptors, the most widely known of whom is Carl Milles, are developing creative ability, and, like the painters, are becoming identified with the land of their birth. Milles is perhaps the most versatile and talented of the moderns. His wide-winged eagles have a power akin to Liljefors's vibrant paintings. The late Per Hasselberg was at his best in fresh and charming representations of girlish forms. Carl J. Eldh, David Edström and Christian Erickson are the other outstanding names.

Dr Brinton, in his introduction, writes: "The art of Sweden did not long remain the exclusive property of the upper classes. . . but reinforced by a basic peasant virility, it became a thing of the people and for the people," thus summing up the matter, briefly and well.

Director Hannover's opening paragraph contains the statement that "even as late as the rococo period, Denmark had produced no art that could be called truly Danish in spirit and character."

Step by step, from the work of the three outstanding painters of the early nineteenth century, beginning with Eckersberg, the father of Danish painting, Kōbke and Marstrand, to the modern school of Skagen, he traces the development of painting in his country.

For a long time Denmark's artists copied nature with painstaking fidelity, and in portraits, story-telling and genre pictures showed every phase of national life. They were seemingly too contented to wander far afield. In



the introduction by the quotable Dr Brinton, we read again: "It was not . . . until the advent of the Paris-trained talents that Danish painting was able to overcome the professional provinciality that had been its handicap from the start." The influence of such men as Julius Paulsen, Viggo Johansen, Wilhelm Hammershøi and the leader of the Skagen school, Peter Krøyer, upon modern art is vividly and fully told and the fine illustrations enable the student to compare the works of these painters as could no printed word alone.

But it is in his masterly presentation of Thorvaldsen, his country's most famed artist, that Director Hannover is particularly illuminating. In these pages, Thorvaldsen ceases to be a legendary and remote figure, scorned by the modernist as being old-fashioned and coldly classical. Upon his return to Denmark from Rome, then in the maturity of his powers, he exercised a powerful influence upon the art of his time and especially upon his successor, Bissen, who fell heir to Thorvaldsen's last commissions, finishing them after the master's death. Bissen was the link between the classical tradition and the modern in Denmark. His smiling, be-whiskered soldier gleefully waving a diminutive beech bough, however, looks strange to our eyes. The other sculptors treated are H. E. Freund, chiefly famous for his frieze depicting the saga of the Norse gods, compared to the work of Michelangelo in his day, Jerichau, C. F. Willumsen, Kai Neilson, the Wagners and others of the modern school.

Not the historical development of Norwegian art nor the architecture of his country do we find stressed in Director Thiis' text on Norwegian art. It is a story of art against heavy odds in a country new to artistic expression. Painting and sculpture had a tardier beginning than in either Sweden or Denmark. In these latter countries we find architecture and art in general always several decades behind that of the rest

of Europe. Norway, with her youth and unjaded enthusiasm has made astonishing progress in a very short time, some of her painters and sculptors ranking with the best in the other countries under discussion. Her sculptors, however, have had to struggle against poverty, lack of commissions and discouragement, so that few have found it possible to gain a living in Norway and have migrated to other lands. Middlethun and Bergslein studied in Rome, and returning were given several large commissions as well as orders for portrait busts. Stephen Sinding won honors in France and Germany and received large commissions in Denmark. Of the younger men, Vigeland, the author tells us, possesses the most marked power and promise, and, according to Mr Thiis, genius. Like Rodin, he has spent many years on a composition called Hell, with tortured interlocked figures of men and women, recalling to mind the French sculptor's ideas for his famed Gates of Hell.

In painting, Norway's artists are individualistic, rather than following any particular school, altho the influence of Courbet, Manet, Cazin and Bastien-Lepage upon such men as Eilif Peterssen, Heyerdahl, Werenskiold and the cosmopolitan Fritz Thaulow is told at length. Christian Krohg and Edvard Munch paint pictures with social or pathological tendencies with a Nordic interpretation. The modern movement headed by Henrik Lund and Ludvig Karsten shows a group of radicals who seem to rejoice in the fact that in Norway there is not as yet any academy of art, royal or national. Technical instruction, for this reason, has been hard to obtain, and the painters have won their way thru great difficulties to the place they occupy in European art of today. Mr Thiis places Edvard Munch in the very first rank as a painter; he stands forth in high relief as a man of pronounced individuality and originality and is treated more sympathetically in these pages than the other moderns of the Norwegian school.

In *Scandinavian Art* we find printed in sequence, for the first time,

the story of architecture, painting and sculpture and of the artists of these northern countries, some of whom are little known in America. It is a difficult matter to find written, in any form, except in an occasional magazine article, any authoritative material on individual artists and their work, of these lands, and for this treasure-house of information we are very grateful.

LORADO TAFT STUDIO.

Chicago.

O. K.: L. T.

### Service

Fine works of imagination often express what statistics and books of fact cannot. Isadore Freedom is the greatest modern librarian in fiction. He was born a Polish Jew. The first American word he learned was freedom. So in New York he changed his name to that by due process of law. It cost him seven dollars. He had nine dollars at the time.

He worked in a sweat shop and went to night school after which he studied until one or two o'clock. When he had prepared himself, he served his people in a small public library in an ill-smelling ghetto street. He knew how to introduce folks to books. In a year, the Darwin on his desk had been read by so many "that it was a case for the Board of Health." He kept his shelf of astronomy next to the shelf of economics and he said to his people:

"Yes, read about your jobs and your hours and wages. Yes, you must strike. You must have better lives. But you must read also about the stars—and about the big spaces—silent—not one single little sound for many million years. To be free you must grow as big as that,—inside of your head, inside of your soul. It is not enough to be free of a czar, a kaiser or a sweat shop boss. What will you do when they are gone? My fine people, how will you rule the world? You are deaf and blind. You must be free to open your own ears and eyes, to look into the books and see what is

there—great thoughts and feelings, great ideas! And when you have seen, then you must think—you must think it all out every time! That is freedom."—*Report, Public library, Mason City, Iowa.*

### Springtime books

Chapman. What bird is that?

Field. The springtime.

French. How to grow vegetables.

Keeler. Our early wild flowers.

Sharp. Spring of the year.

Thomas. Spring.

Thoreau. Early spring in Massachusetts.

—*Library Bulletin, Worcester, Mass.*

A volume of 160 pages, Safety education, has been issued by the Board of Education of Chicago. It was prepared by George B. Masslich, Daniel F. O'Hearn and George L. Voorhees, a committee appointed for the work by Superintendent Mortenson. The committee had the coöperation and effective interest of a large number of educational organizations and business concerns in Chicago and Illinois.

The purpose of the volume is to furnish a plan for adoption in elementary schools to bring home to teachers and pupils the ordinary dangers to life and limb in the business of living. The book is being put into the Chicago schools as a textbook and the Superintendent of schools has a moderate supply of copies for free distribution to those who are especially interested.

As an entering wedge to certification of all librarians, the certification of librarians in public school libraries was urged. Under the plan of the general certification, all librarians would be required to pass examinations and certification would be under such rules and regulations as the state may lay down. As state aid would be a prerequisite in certification of public librarians, and as any attempt to gain such aid would probably fail at the present time, the librarians decided to confine their work, for the present, to certification of public school librarians.—*Report of Minnesota Library Association Committee.*

### Department of School Libraries

#### Random Reflections of a High-School Librarian\*

I like to reflect upon my first visit to the Brockton public library. I was greeted in the pleasantest way imaginable, by a charming, cordial smile. It seems to me that a smile like that is an epitome of library philosophy. Whenever I have met librarians, I have seen just such a welcome on their faces. It is more than a smile; it is an illumination, reflecting a light within. I think the light is the library spirit, that fine appreciation of what the library means; appreciation expressed in human kindness, an overflow from the joy of happy associations with good books, good thoughts, and good people. I have found librarians wonderfully kind. It has been an inspiration to me to meet and work with them. I have a great respect for the unselfish and noble work that they are doing. I like to reflect that it is librarians who began the high-school library movement.

High-school library work is a glorious adventure. It brings the thrill of travel through many lands. The magic of the past and the promise of the present are ever beckoning to new paths of wonder and delight. Tintagel's chaste towers gleam thru the mist of the moorland. Stirling Castle bespeaks the daring of old Scottish chiefs. Ann Hathaway's June roses breathe of a young lad's love. France proudly points to medieval prayers in stone, while Rome's winding catacombs whisper of earlier prayers in secret places. Gay gondoliers allure along Venetian waterways. The trail of the little canoe twists temptingly. A barrel organ carols across the city street. We hear Columbus bid his mariners "sail on and on and on." Today it is the sunny cotton fields that stretch before us. Tomorrow we may watch the

cowboys "let 'er buck." We see the immigrants at Ellis Island. Then turn to California to trace the "seed of the sun." Or humbly pause before the mysteries of commercial law. For diverse paths are ever opening. On one of them Charles Brooks' small nephew "waddles like a sailor and wags his slider from side to side." We see the flowers blossom in the garden of the selfish giant. The lives of great men ever summon to remind us "we can make our lives sublime." Thru the mail we meet familiar names and faces, and are invited to listen to the song and the jest, and to follow the work of the day. All the paths are rich with fellowships. The most glorious part of the whole glorious adventure are the friendships along the way. The supervisors keep the torch of inspiration ever burning. Every teacher brings some light to brighten the day. It is fun to learn the fascinating devices that lure our youth along the path of learning. It is charming to hear a French folk song or a ballad of '76 in a class room. There is a delight in seeing maps that are not maps merely but things of beauty and a joy forever. What book can give the thrill of folios prepared by youth's painstaking, clever hand! Truly, a school is a pleasant place for library adventure. Kindly greetings meet one at each turn. The careless joy of youth trips thru its hallways, and laughs contented at its work. And over all, hovers a fine spirit, the spirit of wisdom, born of and manifesting love.

Books are the guides upon the highway. Some are especially adapted to help the high school traveller. A good encyclopedia will answer many questions. Shakespeare's theater, A Book for Shakespeare plays and pageants, Shakespeare for community players, Shakespeare on the stage and Shakespeare's workmanship have been much used in connection with the study of Shakespeare's plays.

\*Read at meeting of Old Colony library club, Public library, Brockton, Mass., March 22, 1923.

The Boy's King Arthur, King Arthur and his knights, The story of the Holy Grail and the Meaning of the Idylls have interested those who were studying the Idylls of the king. When Knights were bold, Everyday things in England and the Story of the Middle Ages have illuminated the age of chivalry for the students of Ivanhoe. The Home-life of the Greeks and the Private life of the Romans have been used by history, Latin, and English classes. Gayley's Classic myths is in constant demand. Garnett and Goss' History of English literature is popular because of its illustrations. The Who's Who and Who's Who in America are absolutely necessary. Ward's Grocer's encyclopedia is a boon to the Household Arts department. The story of foods, How the world is clothed and How the world is fed and Food and dietetics are continually used. Well illustrated books on birds and flowers, trees and animals help the Science department. The electrical clubs voted Bucher's Practical wireless telegraphy and the Lefax Radio handbook the most useful for the study of telegraphy. The Agriculture classes have made much use of Lippincott's Farm manuals.

But the subject of books is interminable and their character, of course, would be determined by the nature of the work in the school. If the English department requires home reading, it will greatly appreciate any arrangement that will enable the students to obtain the books. Some libraries duplicate the titles on the home reading list. Some reserve them for high-school circulation. One librarian has sent over 400 books to the high-school and an assistant for two hours each day to take care of them. She has cataloged all the books in the high-school library and stimulated the mothers' club to give a book fund. Another successful venture was a get-together meeting of the teachers and librarians at the library one evening.

Circumstances in your community determine the nature of the work that

can be done. It may be that you are wringing your hands because your future citizens will gorge upon Zane Grey and Ethel Dell. You have probably learned that you can by artful suggestion remedy that to some extent yourselves. But the teachers can do more. Where we can only remark "This is a good story; I liked it immensely," they can say to Johnny, "Read this," and lo, he readeth it! The teachers recommend what they have enjoyed themselves. So you can use them for proxies. I have found that teachers delight to read. They delight to get new and worthwhile books. You can help them tremendously by supplying fresh material both for personal inspiration and to supplement their classroom work. A picture collection would call down blessings on your heads. Teachers are glad to get magazine articles touching upon some phase of their work. Bibliographies of supplementary material for the study of the classics are also appreciated. The smaller the community, the more easily you can learn the work of the school. Teachers and librarians have so much in common that the bonds between them are very close. Probably you have already experienced the joys of traveling along the path together.

I have not mentioned library lessons as they are a familiar excursion among librarians. Nor have I brought many details of my journey, as you might not find them useful from your point of departure. I am going to close with a story told me by an English teacher. A boy had been told to tell the plot of Tom Sawyer. "But I can't find a plot," he protested. "You must," was the reply. He returned to his seat and again thumbed the pages. Presently he appeared at the teacher's desk and pointed solemnly to these words, "Any one attempting to find a motive in this story will be prosecuted; anyone attempting to find a moral will be banished; anyone attempting to find a plot will be shot."

IRENE McDONALD,  
BROCKTON high-school.

### School Library Revenue

The Committee on library revenues, appointed to consider adequate financial support for university, college, normal, high school and grade school libraries, has made a study and gathered additional data on the subject. It seems advisable before the recommendations of the committee are presented to the association, on which recommendation the association will be asked to act as it did in the case of public libraries, that the committee should have an opportunity for meeting and discussion which opportunity it has not yet had. The chairman of the committee, however, has prepared a rather extensive tentative outline of what should be the minimum support for the various libraries indicated, and this tentative report will be discussed at the forthcoming meeting at Hot Springs.

The chief points of the committee are that the library as an educational institution, is modified by local conditions such as character and quality of the work of the public library in the community, in the character of the work done in the school or institution itself. These variables make it extremely difficult to establish a fair and just standard. Further, there is a totally inadequate conception of the value of the library in the work of the high school, college and normal schools. The situation with reference to normal schools is perhaps somewhat better and also in universities of the first grade. Boards of trustees, presidents of schools and colleges generally have no conception whatever of the function of the library in the educational field. Many libraries are wholly unworthy of the name, starved in supply of books, while the authorities look upon the librarians as caretakers, custodians or clerks.

The first thing emphasized is the need of revenue for books. The original book expenditure for starting a library will need to be many times that

of the annual expenditure. A special book fund provision should be made in case of starting a new department in an institution. The book equipment necessary for a new course cannot be purchased out of the annual book fund but will require an additional outlay.

The character of the teaching, the nature of the work done governs the expenditure for books in university libraries. If the students are not sent to the libraries to make investigation, the library itself is not likely to amount to much. As a general proposition, in a university library \$6 per capita of the number of full-time students registered is a reasonable annual minimum for the institution's book fund. Some universities have already reached this mark. Some of the higher grade institutions do not have this much for their book fund. The university with a small number of students, for doing work of the first grade, will require a larger amount per capita. In the larger colleges where research work of great importance is done the need for a wide range of books is great. An institution having from 500 to 1500 students should have its book fund not less than \$5 per capita annually. No college library worthy of the name expends less than \$2000 a year in the purchase of reading matter, regardless of the number of students.

Mention is made of a small college library with a book expenditure of \$6000 a year for a student body of less than 500.

The revenue for the book fund of the normal school library should be on practically the same basis as that of the college library. For the high school library, \$1 per student is a reasonable minimum for the purchase of reading matter, annually. No high school should be worthy of the name that expends less than \$400 for the purchase of reading matter during the year. Even this amount will leave many wants still unsupplied.



The grade school library is a difficult proposition. Schools vary in different communities from the one-room ungraded school with a few pupils to the grade school attended by several thousand. The committee questions whether the vote of the association calling for one full-time librarian for 1000 pupils is correct. The right kind of teaching in such a school will require a larger amount of real library service than one librarian can give. To a considerable extent, duplicates of a number of titles will be necessary, tho the number of these titles may be small. The per capita revenue, \$1, will more adequately serve a large school than a small one. This can only be accomplished thru county library service, providing for interchange of books from main collections.

Schools located in communities having a good public library call for 50 cents per student, a reasonable minimum for the purpose.

The librarian in any school should rank in educational equipment, professional equipment, personality and salary with teachers in the school. In higher institutions, the librarian should rank with the professors, who are heads of departments, with the same educational and personal equipment and background belonging to a position of that sort. The number of library assistants in such an institution will depend on the character and efficiency of the work.

A further and later report will be made.

S. H. RANCK.

It is said that the first university in Central Europe was founded in Prague in 1348 and in the middle of the fifteenth century, knowledge of reading and writing was general. Today there are practically no illiterates among the Czechs and generous appropriations for educational purposes are approved by all parties.

### The World Conference

The World Conference on Education will be held in San Francisco, California, June 28-July 5. The sixty-first annual convention of the National Education Association will be within that period, July 1-6, in Oakland-San Francisco. The World Conference on Education is being held under the auspices of the N. E. A.

Invitations have been issued to 50 different nations to send five official delegates each, five alternates and as many unofficial delegates as they wish. More than a thousand professors from foreign institutions teaching in American colleges and universities, and 15,000 foreign students have been invited to sit with the delegates from their respective countries in the sessions and to act as interpreters.

Milton J. Ferguson, State librarian of California, has been appointed by the Executive board to represent the A. L. A. at this meeting.

The World Conference is called to work out a program rather than to approve one that has already been prepared. The Foreign Relations committee of the N. E. A., however, has prepared tentative agenda. Supplemented by proposals from delegates of other countries, they will form the basis of the deliberations of the conference.

President William B. Owen of the N. E. A. and President W. G. Cove of the British National Association, are among the speakers already arranged for. The great virtues which are common to civilized people everywhere and the contributions of various nations to civilization will be visualized in a magnificent pageant. One session will be devoted to a festival of folk songs and dances, given in native tongue and costume.

As yet nothing definite has been planned to show the place and power of the library in the processes of education, but the use of print in the form of books, reports, etc., will be in constant evidence at the meeting.

### False Economy

The *Journal of the National Education Association*, April, quotes an interesting editorial appearing in the Boston Globe on "Economizing on the kids." The discussion is brought out by a statement of Dr Henry Pritchett in his annual report as head of the Carnegie Foundation in which, it is stated, he stresses the high cost of education, his sympathies being with the taxpayers. Dr Pritchett presents figures to show that the cost of the public schools in the United States has risen from \$140,000,000 in 1890 to about \$1,000,000,000 in 1920. Other figures are also given to further emphasize the fact that too much money is spent on education. The cost of operating everything has made prodigious jumps in the last 20 years. He notes the growth of population, larger and better equipped school buildings, etc., etc., but worries over the fact that the country is spending seven times as much as it used to spend to educate our youth.

The *Journal* makes the comment that "to curtail school expenditures is one way to economize but it is not the American way." It also suggests that "before we start to cut the school budget it would be wise perhaps to reflect that the heaviest tax charges which we are now paying are those which we pay into the coffers of the Federal tax-gatherers. Our annual overhead charge for past and future wars now amounts to about \$2,500,000,000. Most of this expense was entailed in one war which lasted, for us, less than two years. Our criminals and defectives are costing the taxpayers of the country nearly a billion dollars a year. In other countries sorely oppressed by taxation, the tendency has been to cut down on education, but America has committed itself to another policy. A billion dollars spent in improving the capacity of the race to settle its international problems with its heads instead of with battleships and machine guns, is a

measure of economy. No nation alone can solve the problem of avoiding periodical debauches which kill off the manhood of the world and destroy its accumulated capital, but the strongest nation in the world ought to lead the way. A half billion spent to cut down illiteracy, which breeds crime, is also a measure of economy. Popular education is the only remedy we have for the defects of our civilization. There probably is waste in school administration. If so, the thing to do is to cut out the waste, not to curtail education."

### Something Definite

The reorganized National Education Association is no longer primarily an audience but an organization for work. The older association provided an open forum. Publications of all papers extended the audience and gave permanence to the record.

The annual meeting provides still for the discussion of important topics by competent speakers before gatherings of teachers. The power and value of this face-to-face experience cannot be ignored but an association like the National Education Association must conceive and formulate purposes, must frame principles and policies, must establish ways of procedure, must adopt and refine methods of investigation and publicity. In a word, the association must stand for something definite in the minds of its members and the public.—*Dr W. B. Owen, president, N. E. A.*

Any real librarian would start a library if there was only one book as a basis for the work. There was a woman who declared that if she had the choice of what that book was to be, she would choose a telephone directory. Then she could get the books and information her patrons asked for by telephoning her friends.—*Report of Public library, Mason City, Iowa.*

The report, which is pocket size, gives several good stories in connection with a discussion of the service.

### Library Service in Elementary Schools

At a Teachers' Training conference held at the West Chester State normal school, March 26-27, the library section held two sessions where they discussed library service in the elementary schools and a course of study in library methods for normal schools.

Miss Alice Cochran, librarian, West Chester State normal school, presided at the first meeting. Miss Adeline Zachert, state director of school libraries, described in detail the various phases of school library progress in Pennsylvania. She emphasized the necessity of having library service of different kinds in various types of elementary schools, such as, 1) library room in large elementary schools on the general plan of library rooms in high-schools; 2) class room libraries for schools too small to maintain library room; 3) district circulating libraries of from 30 to 50 volumes for rural schools; 4) permanent collections of reference and general books for rural schools.

Miss Zachert described interestingly the present status of the school library movement thruout the country which is based on the principle that school libraries are just as essential for children in the country as are libraries for children in larger communities. The normal school libraries offer an excellent centralized agency for the management of circulating school libraries. The records should be simple but accurate and kept continuously.

Miss Harriet K. Avery, Keystone State normal school, Kutztown, presided at the second meeting. Miss Helen A. Ganser, State normal school, Millersville, gave a report for the Committee on revision of the normal school course of study in library methods. The course is based on the list of topics used in all normal schools in the past two years. After some slight revision, the course was enthusiastically accepted by the librarians present.

The resolutions adopted by the meeting commended the work now attempted by the normal schools of Pennsylvania in the training of teachers in the use of books; urged that the course in library methods be made a separate course of study, required of all students in their junior year, and that the course receive a definite unit of credit. This course, heretofore, has been given as part of the course in English.

At a round-table meeting, topics discussed were Successful methods of recalling overdue books, Filing pamphlets, Bookbinding and repair and a Basic list of reference books for normal schools. A graded outline of a course of study in the use of books for elementary schools aroused particular interest.

It was unanimously agreed that the conferences and informal discussions were of great value and interest.

Attractive exhibits of mounted pictures, picture bulletins and posters aroused much interest.

ESTELLA SLAVEN,  
Secretary.

A very useful pamphlet under the title, *Service Bulletin*, is issued monthly by W. F. Quarrie & Company, publishers of the World Book. The pamphlet for April consists of four pages and contains questions relating to that month, the answers to which may be found in material entered in the World Book, also the pages on which the answers may be found. Other interesting features are "What to look for out-of-doors in April," and "Some interesting things to do in April." In addition to the interesting story of the month, the *Service Bulletin* also gives special days, flower and birthstone, famous birthdays and great events that happened in April, forming, altogether, a most interesting combination.

At the end of the year, the 12 numbers, if bound, will form a valuable handbook for many an occasion of perplexity by teachers.

## News From the Field

## East

Doris Fairbanks, Simmons '21, was married March 17 to Richard Hittinger in Fitchburg, Massachusetts. They will be at home after September in Belmont, Massachusetts.

Margaret Withington, Simmons '20, in September will become librarian of the Social Service library, Boston, and Dean of the School of Social Work, Simmons college, Boston.

Dorothy Kohl, Simmons '20, has been appointed librarian of the Deering high-school library, Portland, Maine.

Mrs Bertha V. Hartzell, Simmons '18, has been appointed librarian at Dana hall, with the task of organizing a library. Mrs Hartzell will also act as hostess of Pine Manor.

Miss Caroline L. Jones, Pratt '13, formerly library supervisor, Veterans' hospital No. 81, New York, has been made librarian of Public library at Wallingford, Conn.

The 1922 report of the Beebe town library, Wakefield, Mass., records a circulation of 96,798v.; number of volumes on the shelves, 22,562; card-holders, 6188; receipts for the year, \$8839; expenditures—salaries, \$3705; books and binding, \$2911. A number of valuable gifts were received during the year.

The annual report of the Providence public library for 1922 states the present stock as 281,743. The circulation increased from 685,949 in 1921 to 744,782 in 1922.

Mention is made of the beginning of a deposit system at the Providence chamber of commerce, and of coöperation with the Bureau of Business Research at Brown university in supplying "Notes on up-to-date business books," in the pages of the *Providence Magazine*.

The other regularly observed publicity methods include the weekly notes in the daily papers, the monthly notes in the

*Providence Magazine*, and the library's own *Quarterly Bulletin*. The increase in circulation at some of the branches has been stimulated by special appeals to the interest of the local community, in the form of "Community nights," etc. A tribute is paid to the long and distinguished service of Mrs Mary E. S. Root, as children's librarian, whose departure from Providence is keenly regretted.

## Central Atlantic

The twenty-sixth annual report of the Public library, Buffalo, N. Y., is a record of the activities of the eighty-seventh year of the institution. A circulation of 2,067,584v. is recorded, among 168,640 borrowers in a population of 506,725; books on the shelves, 429,531; number of volumes sent to agencies (not included in circulation), branches, 30,717; traveling libraries, 10,593. Receipts, \$272,819; expenditures—books and periodicals, \$50,354; binding, \$11,113; salaries: library, \$121,224; janitors, \$18,667; balance in the treasury, \$23,418.

The Johnson public library, Hackensack, N. J., records a circulation of 100,432v. A very illuminating statement is made concerning the increased cost of operating and maintenance, due largely to the increased prices of everything. There are now 26,338v. on the shelves, 1760v. having been added during the year. Number of borrowers, 6481. Poorly bound new books were responsible for a large increase in the binding bill. A large number of gifts were received, particularly books.

The Museum association and Public library, Newark, N. J., are beginning extensive preparation for an exhibit on China and the Chinese, to be held during October and November, 1923. It is hoped that by this exhibit actual information may be transmitted regarding some of the underlying facts and situations in China today as well as the interesting difference between China's culture and our own, her way of meeting life and ours.

Smaller exhibits, made from the larger exhibition, will be made up and sent to other American cities on request.

Mrs Elizabeth Bacon Adams Rathbone, known thruout the country for her interest in collecting relics of George Washington and in preserving Mt. Vernon, died, February 22, in Brooklyn, N. Y. For many years the great interest of Mrs Rathbone's life was forwarding interest in the Mt. Vernon association, the Society of Colonial Dames and Daughters of the American Revolution, so that her passing away on Washington's birthday is notable.

Miss Josephine Adams Rathbone, vice-director of Pratt Institute library school, is her daughter and the two have made their home together in Brooklyn for many years.

The annual report of the Public library of New Brunswick, N. J., for the year 1922, just issued, appears under the title, The fortieth year. The report deals with the very creditable accomplishments of the year 1922 and outlines plans for 1923, which have to do mostly with extension of service in various departments. A unique feature is a list of 10 recommendations for action needed to make the library more nearly meet the needs of its constituents.

Number of volumes in the library, 23,985, exclusive of documents, bound magazines and foreign books; circulation, 115,479v.; number of pictures, 3509, circulation, 2692.

Receipts for the year, \$21,745; expenditures—salaries, \$7039; books, \$2403; extension of building and repairs, \$2888.

The annual report of the Public library of Binghamton, N. Y., records a circulation of 239,961v. of which 30 per cent was non-fiction; number of borrowers, 18,908; reading room attendance, 55,201; 2688 pictures lent to teachers, students, printers and general public. There were 80 class room libraries sent to 11 schools. Six exhibits were made in the library during

the year and five lectures given. Lantern slides had a total use of 3211 at 37 lectures given at clubs, churches and various other organizations. Programs were made for women's clubs, together with lists of suggestive material for carrying out their use. Americanization classes met at the library, the first class having a registration of 55, with an average attendance of 25; the second, a registration of 69, with an average attendance of 55, and 60 passed the examination. Each class held 16 sessions.

Received from the city, \$23,000. Of this, \$13,044 was spent for salaries, \$4437 for books and \$950 for binding.

#### Central

Winifred St. John, Simmons '20, has been made chief of the Music and Drama department of the Detroit public library.

The Simmons library, Kenosha, Wisconsin, records a circulation of 261,425v. among 15,538 borrowers in a population of 40,472; number of volumes on the shelves, 45,610; number of newspapers and periodicals currently received, 124 titles and 167 copies; staff members, 15. The erection of a number of branch library buildings is strongly recommended.

The report of the Public library of Waterloo, Iowa, records a circulation of 237,842v., with 44,500 books on the shelves; number of cards in force, 9763. The circulation in the schools, September-December, 1922, was 71 per cent of the circulation for the whole of the preceding year. The estimated circulation from deposit stations was 35,620v. Receipts for the year, \$38,105, of which amount, \$4326 was spent for books; \$1157 for binding; \$18,723 for salaries; \$2522 for janitor's wage. The staff is made up of Miss Maria Clark Brace, librarian, 12 co-workers, and a clerical staff of two.

John J. Pettijohn, assistant to the president of the University of Minnesota, died at Rochester, Minn., March 20. Mr Pettijohn had been engaged



in extension work at the universities of Wisconsin, North Dakota, Indiana, Minnesota and in the U. S. bureau of education. In this work, he was actively interested in coöperation with libraries and his acquaintance among librarians was large. He was specially interested in the expansion of the library activities of the University of Minnesota and had done much to make this possible in the near future.

The thirty-sixth annual report of the Newberry library shows 406,499v. on the shelves; number of readers, 54,249; recorded use of books, 147,143. The department of Genealogy and local history recorded 22 per cent of the year's readers.

The Newberry library is a reference library on the humanities, its clientele being advanced students, faculties of universities and high-school and professional persons..

A memorial room to John M. Wing, founder of the library's collection relating to printing, was furnished and occupied during the year. Mr Wing's personal library, consisting of about 3800v., forms the nucleus of this collection. A considerable number of rare and note-worthy books were added to the library, including 246 incunabula, bringing the collection up to 695. Gifts were received from A. G. S. Josephson who presented a manuscript bibliography on cards compiled by himself of the literature relating to the invention of printing and from Mrs James H. Campbell of Grand Rapids, Michigan, who donated 16 holograph letters of Walter L. Newberry, the founder of the library, written from 1833-1838. About 150 slavery items were added to the already extensive collection.

#### South

Governor Neff of Texas has appointed 18 delegates to represent the state at the A. L. A. meeting at Hot Springs.

Miss Mary McBeth and Miss Helen Forney were the representatives of the

Kansas City public library staff organization at the A. L. A. at Hot Springs.

A new library building, erected at a cost of \$100,000, was recently dedicated in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. This is said to be the finest library in the state built entirely with public funds.

Mrs Lois White Henderson, at present librarian of the Potter County free library, Amarillo, Texas, has recently been appointed librarian of the Memorial library, Shreveport, Louisiana. Mrs Henderson begins work at Shreveport, May 1.

Miss Edith K. Van Eman, Pratt '13, librarian of Public library at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, has resigned her position and will go to the Public library, Kansas City, Mo., as librarian of the Westport branch. She will be succeeded by Miss Laura A. Selkregg, Pratt '22, who went to Oshkosh in September as assistant librarian.

The new library building for the North Carolina college for women, Greensboro, N. C., was opened to the student body and public, March 14. It is said that the new library is perhaps the most attractive building on the campus and will serve the needs of the college for many years to come. The new building is more than three times as large as the old structure, and has a capacity of about 95,000 volumes and 285 readers. Approximately \$75,000 was spent on improvement and enlargement.

The fifty-second annual report of the Public library of Norfolk, Virginia, records a circulation of 153,360v. among 31,087 registered borrowers; 39,691v. in the library; total home reading use, 224,713v. The library has made many book-lists and assisted with literary programs. The need for more branches and larger quarters for those established is urged. Miss Mary Denson Pretlow, librarian, was elected president of the Virginia library association at its reorganization meeting in November.

Miss Mary E. Baker, head of the catalog department, Carnegie library of Pittsburgh, has been elected librarian of the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, to succeed Miss Lucy Fay, resigned. Miss Baker is succeeded at Pittsburgh by Miss Roxana G. Johnson, for some time connected with libraries on the Pacific Coast and a graduate of the University of Illinois.

In speaking of her change, Miss Baker says:

I am not finding it easy to leave. There is no finer group of workers in the country than those in my department, and you know, from your day with us, how much those in the other departments mean to me. I think I could not do it if it were not for the conviction that the new type of experience will be to my professional advantage. There may be also some of the glamour of a childhood fed upon tales of Tennessee, my grandparents' old home.

A recent report of the Public library of Muskogee, Oklahoma, records a circulation of 119,371v. thru 30,277 residents, with 8502 borrowers' cards in force, and 22,643v. on the shelves. A non-resident fee of \$1 a year takes the library privileges to 66 persons outside the city limits.

The children's librarian gave to each school in the city, a course of instruction in the use of the library and the care of books. The effect of this instruction was noticeable in a very short time. A series of teas was given to the teachers of the ward schools during a week in September when from 10 to 30 teachers were present each afternoon. A similar courtesy offered to the high school teachers did not result as successfully as the first attempt.

Income from tax levy, \$18,605, of which \$11,694 was spent for eight months' operation, leaving a balance of \$6911 for the remaining four months of the year.

A number of Southern states have appointed official delegates to the meeting of the A. L. A. at Hot Springs, Arkansas, the idea back of this being to have present at the conference other citizens interested in the library movement besides librarians and library trustees.

Those states sending official delegates are: Alabama, 14; Arkansas, 2; Kansas, 11; Kentucky, 5; Mississippi, 7; Oklahoma, 15; Texas, 18; Virginia, 1, these in addition to the regular delegates from these states.

#### West

Miss Flo LaChapelle of Kemmerer, Wyoming, recently appointed State librarian of Wyoming, assumed the duties of that office in March.

Miss Alice Spencer of the Public library, Sioux City, Iowa, has been appointed assistant librarian of the Parmly Billings memorial library, Billings, Montana.

The report of the Public library of Denver, Colorado, for 1922 records a home circulation of 1,199,323 v.; books used in the reading room, 608,527; additions to the library, 16,540; number of books on the shelves, 228,676; borrowers' cards in force, 66,501; per capita circulation, 4.67.

The outstanding event of the year is said to be the decision of the Colorado Scientific society and the Colorado Engineering council to place their books in the Public library. The books of the former society number about 5000 and the Engineering council has voted \$10,000 for the purchase of technical literature on its work. This collection will be added to annually by appropriation from the societies and will give the library one of the most important technical collections in the country. The establishment of this department and the library's growth in general made it necessary to withdraw from public meetings four rooms for library purposes. The report states that this is a loss to the library but an unavoidable one. Another activity that was discontinued was the loan of books to out-of-town borrowers. During the year, the library's volume of work continued to exceed the library's financial growth and several plans were held in abeyance.

The library continues to cooperate with many other activities thru its school and extension divisions, welfare bureaus, Visual Education council and

other agencies. The work for the schools and for the young people's room has increased in every direction and is bringing the greatest interest from teachers, parents and public-spirited citizens. Work with foreigners has progressed with very definite results.

The plan of naming various branches for persons of local prominence in various directions brings in a form of interest that is much appreciated.

The appropriation from the city was \$140,000 which was increased by other funds to \$152,728. The expenditures totaled \$149,589, of which \$22,238 was for book and periodicals; \$9083, binding; \$68,628, salaries; \$18,820, wages.

The library was open every day except national holidays. Transients secure cards on a deposit of money. A fine of two cents a day was charged for all overdue books. This report makes interesting reading and is pocket-size.

#### Pacific coast

Miss Annabel Porter, head of the children's department of the Tacoma public library, has been appointed chairman of the Literature department of the Washington State Parent-Teacher association. Four of the members of this department are the children's librarians of Seattle, Spokane, Everett and Tacoma. The membership of this association numbers some 23,000.

#### Foreign

The report of the Public library of Adelaide, South Australia, states that a curtailment of funds continues to seriously handicap the service to the public. Not only is the supply of books diminishing but the normal development work has been brought to a standstill.

The library has been redecorated thruout with the effect not only of enriching the appearance of the building but greatly improving its lighting. The great need for storage facilities for collections of valuable newspapers and hundreds of valuable books is set out. Book exhibits continue to be of special interest. Not only have such

events as Dante's sexcentenary been marked by the library's display, but at various other times, timely exhibits on activities common to the country have been made.

The library has received a number of gifts of books, pamphlets, newspapers, maps and miscellanies during the year.

Number of books on the shelves, 119,065. There was a total attendance at the library of 133,218 persons, a slight decrease as compared with the previous year.

The Society for Collecting Publications Printed Outside of Germany, in Berlin, has written asking for missing numbers of PUBLIC LIBRARIES from 1915 to date. If any one is inclined to make this contribution, the numbers will be received with extreme gratitude. No. 8 of V. 20 and all of V. 21 are especially desired.

The address is Berlin, T 2, den Schlos, Portal 3.

[There is an unusual number of short articles in this issue of PUBLIC LIBRARIES, in the thought that at this particular season the patrons for whom it is prepared will find more pleasure in short items of a semi-news character than in longer articles. The book discussions are unusually interesting.]

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**Wanted**—Children's librarian. Applicant please state education, experience and salary desired. Public Library, Clinton, Iowa.

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**Wanted**—Order or extension work. Seven years of expert experience; college, library and business training. Best of credentials. Address *Pattemia*, 1960 E. 116th Street, Cleveland, Ohio.

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**Wanted**—Cataloger in state college library. Library training and ability to teach elementary library course desired. Salary dependent on educational qualifications and experience. State compensation desired. Address W. W. Foote, librarian, State College of Washington library, Pullman, Wash.